

RICK MERCER: Showing No Mercy • GLOBAL ECONOMY: Fears of Recession

CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

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OCTOBER 12, 1998

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In his new series, *Made in Canada*, Newfoundland comic Rick Mercer embarks on playing yet another ready character, a script reader with big ambitions.

From The Editor

Fears about the R-word

The R-word is back in circulation. And one of the people pushing it there is Leon Levy, one of America's wealthiest moneymen, an architect of the leveraged buyout, and a trustee of the Oppenheimer Fund (assets of \$85 billion U.S.). In an interview in *The New York Review of Books*, the journals of leftish establishment, Levy was asked if a U.S. recession was possible. His reply: "More than possible. I think it is likely. And it could occur within six months."

His argument is typical and cogent. "The U.S. economy is vulnerable, and has been for some time." His fear is that the troubled Asian nations, and now those in South America, stop buying American products. With the United States already facing trade imbalance, corporate profits drop further. Stock market prices increase and plateau. The buying spree that has buoyed the American economy comes to an end.

As Levy says, "The man who is building the biggest house in the Hispaniola may have set, and thoughts of he suddenly loses \$10 million in the stock market. The same will be true for the average investor. He may not lay it on, or eat it in oil, or spend it much of Christmas."

Levy bases his analysis on what he sees around him. Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Korea have all overextended themselves. About one-third of Japan's GNP went for capital investment, much of financed by big banks. Now, the country is finding it cannot afford all of those hotels, office towers, computers and oil platforms. The connection to America? "They stop buying our exports," says Levy.

People also get greedy. They start to use impaired accounting practices or fancy deals, such as the one that undid the multibillion-dollar Long-Term Capital hedge fund in New York City (page 43).



New York banker: stock market jitters

In Canada, the same nervousness has been evident on local stock exchanges as well. Last week, two of the largest Canadian banks, Northern Telecom and Newcourt Credit, one of the world's biggest commercial lenders, took a humble and conciliatory about future earnings. As one banker put it, the attitude seems to be, "Let's sell the stock and ask questions later" (page 40). In a related article, Ted Cormack, head of research at J. P. Morgan Canada told *Maritime's* Contributing Editor Mary Jaeger: "The global economy is slowing—and with the U.S. and the Canadian economies are walking" (page 28).

All of that, of course, has slowed Finance Minister Paul Martin some wobbly moves in a brewing controversy about the Employment Insurance plan, designed to assist people out of work (page 32). As Ottawa Correspondent John Geddes reports, the fund is likely to end up \$7 billion in the black this year, but Martin is determined to fight any attempts to reduce eligibility and employee premiums. One reason he is concerned that a loss of revenue may make it impossible for the government to honor commitments on health care and paying down the debt. The conventional wisdom among his opponents is that Martin should use the extra cash to cut taxes, or roll back EI premiums. But the finance minister who may secretly share Levy's apprehensions about the R-word? He may even subscribe to a 10-months Levy tried. "Honor is just made in the light—that is to say, people do not say such following conventional wisdom."

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes:

The boom in estate planning

The subject of wills and estates offers ample material for an entrepreneurial reporter. "Just about everyone has a story," says Senior Writer Barbara Wickens, who wrote the opening piece in this week's cover package (page 46). "Some have happy

tales, such as weeping unexpected bequests from distant relatives. Most, sadly, do not. All too often, a death in the family seems to lead to dissension and bitterness among the survivors."

The best way to avoid such problems, say the experts interviewed for the cover package, is for families to talk things over before the



Wickens' advice

test arises. But their advice often falls into the category of "Do as I say, not as I do." Although the experts claimed that they and other family members had proper estate plans in place, even they found it awkward or difficult to discuss their plans with their own loved ones. The package was edited by Assistant Managing Editor Ross Laver and designed by Associate Art Director Nick Bunnell.

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Hillary and Bill Clinton: cavorting outside to destroy

Clinton's human side

I can't help but feel that I am missing out on the seemingly axiomatic trends of being faithful to my spouse and experiencing only a "biting" of guilt about the infidelity ("Sex and lies," Cover, Sept. 28). I would not expect—or want—Marloes to continue the house in mortifiable terms, but I am surprised at the cavorting time I wasted in watching perhaps the greatest betrayal in human relations.

Bowen Freeny
Publisher

We've heard plenty about sex and lies, how about equal space for faithfulness and loyalty to marital partners?

Maureen Nishio,
Oshawa, Ont.

The confirming support for Clinton is not about job performance, sympathy for the Clinton family, a willingness to forgive and forget, or suggestions of a right-wing conspiracy. It's about Big Brother. People all over

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the world are astounded that the President of the United States could have the most intimate details of his life laid bare for all to see, and they rightly note how much less difficult it would be for the anonymous clerks of government and their accomplices in the media to do the same to any ordinary man or woman. Whereas politicians and the media see Clinton only as the President, the ordinary citizen more easily relates to him as a fellow human, with all the attendant frailties and vulnerabilities. I predict that over the next few American elections, the Republicans who have prodded this crisis will suffer a fate similar to the one handed the Maloney Conservatives by a population outraged over a government devoid of respect for its citizens.

Paul A. Langford
Port Perry, Ont.

In "Defiling sacred premises," David Shribman states "But for the American political establishment and for a chunk of the American public, what the President did with Monica Lewinsky in an office where Abraham Lincoln struggled to save the Union, where Theodore Roosevelt conjured up great national power for a country that barely had a navy, where Franklin Roosevelt inspired the nation first to have the hawks to save capitalism and then to join the crusade to save democracy, was nothing short of unforgivable." The current Oval Office was built during Franklin Roosevelt's administration (1933-1945). Therefore, it is responsible for Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865) or Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909) to have used it? During the William Taft administration (1909-1913), an oval office was built in the West Wing, however, it is not the Oval Office pictured in Shribman's article, and again it was built after Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt were in office.

Robert J. Devereux
Jeffersonville, Wis.

I was absolutely astounded to read Diane Francis's column in which she concludes that "The U.S. President is a very drunk" ("Cavorting, Sept. 28), a term she defines as "someone who does not sober up, but embodies all the negative characteristics of an alcohol." I wonder what sort of her journalistic background has given her the expertise to make such a definite diagnosis. More specifically, I fail to understand how one could consider Bill Clinton as being

John Gapper
Colgate

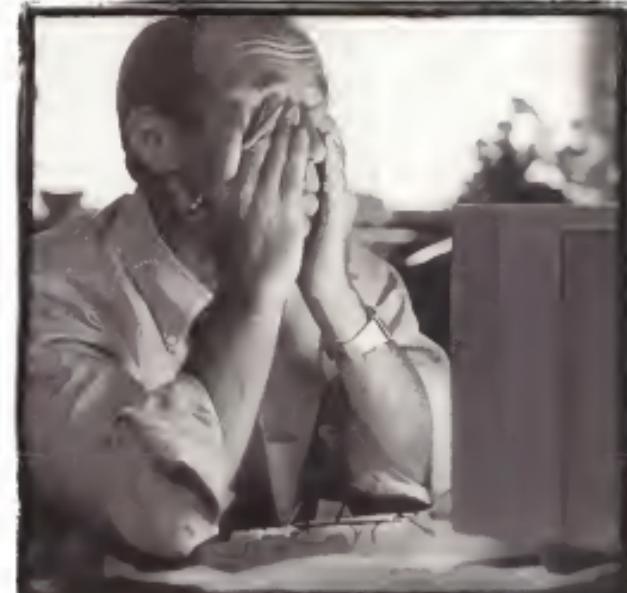
Diane Francis observes that Bill Clinton grew up in a dysfunctional trailer-park setting. Therefore, we should all have compassion but should not consider power. She entitled "trailer park" and inserted "Buckingham Palace," should we still have compassion but not consider power?

Clancy McLaughlin
Winnipeg, Ont.

Technology's children

Thank you for examining secrecy concerning children of sperm donors ("The children of sperm donors," Health, Sept. 28). Adoption groups across Canada urged the minister of health, when crafting legislation on reproductive technologies, not to repeat the error that was made in provincial adoption secrecy legislation. Research has shown how misguided were many professional judgments that stressed the need for parental anonymity and secrecy of identifying information in adoption. Children created from reproductive and genetic technologies have a right to their identity, including the identifying information of their biological parents. Only identifiable donors should be accepted. To offer donor insemination children only "some social and medical history," as Dr. Patricia Bird recommends, is discriminatory and disrespectful to the child. How many people who recommend limited genetic/medical information rights for children would accept this restriction for themselves?

Kathleen Kibbald
Co-chair
Adoption Reform Coalition of Ontario
Ottawa



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Power failure

In this world of inexpensive battery-powered wonders, such as laptop computers and personal global positioning system receivers, it seems strange that commercial airliners are not equipped with some form of battery backup for their flight data and cockpit voice recorders. I realize that in the case of a catastrophic power failure, the aircraft's electrically powered sensors would stop transmitting to the battery-powered recorder, but wouldn't that be a valuable clue in itself? And couldn't a few low-power sensors for basic information such as direction, altitude, temperature, be connected to such a unit? We may never know what happened on the Swissair Flight 111 flight deck in the crucial final minutes, because these ultramodern aircraft lack the equivalent of a \$20 battery-powered cassette recorder ("Lost in the depths," Cover, Sept. 14).

Carsten Mørk
Bærum

Punishing crooks'

The article "C'mon that for export" (Special Report, Aug. 17) really outlines the problems we're having in Ottawa. I am an insurance claims adjuster and I am part of a

Peggy Dove
Upfront: what
happened?

the International Association of Special Investigators' Unit. This good news from Ottawa is that the Ottawa Carleton Regional Police is improving its strategies to fight auto theft. It has set up the Organized Auto Theft, which will meet with representatives of insurance companies, dealerships and rental companies, and the industry of transportation to continue the fight against motor vehicle thefts. The new group will devote efforts to try to convince our government that we need tougher laws and severe sentencing. The group will also work to prevent fraud in the transfer of motor vehicles and in dealing with serial offenders. We start work at punishing those crooks who are striking our property.

5 Sept.
Dove

A tragic loss

Tragedy is nothing new to aviation, but sometimes it is a shock to a surprise, never loses its power to震撼. Those of us who do not lose a brother or sister or husband or father or friend are shaken nonetheless. We cannot fully share the depth of the sadness of the family and friends of Dr. Carol Bill Hancock, who was stabbed to death while on undercover duty in Toronto ("Sayng goodbye," Canada Notes, Aug. 24). But we can extend them of the joy it was to know that for young men, and think for a moment of the joy they gave God. Glad was your soul, Bill Hancock, and give strength to your family and friends to move on.

Maria Rehman
Toronto

Referendum majority

Robert Levein's commentary on Quebec's right to separate from Canada on the basis of a 50-per-cent-plus-one vote in a referendum notwithstanding ("Why they're not enough?" from the Editor, Sept. 7). I and many Newfoundlanders before me have firmly acknowledged that the precedent that best supports the case of Quebec separation has subsequently been disengaged by the Parti Québécois and the rest of mainland Canada. During a referendum in 1948, a small majority of 52 per cent was sufficient to allow Newfoundland's elected representatives to negotiate entry into Canada. A 7,000-vote majority, on the second ballot of a

clear question, was enough to bring Newfoundland into Confederation. Regardless of how fervent Canadians feel about the possibility of a fractured nation, the founding principle of democracy has always been the freedom to choose. If a margin of 2 percentage points was good enough to bring one province into this country, shouldn't the reverse also apply?

Don MacKinnon,
St. John's, Nfld.

If the Yes vote was a referendum by a substantial majority in a closely worded question, then the federal government could call for an immediate election in the rest of Canada, so that the people can elect their negotiating team. We won't negotiate our rights out of my behalf by a bunch of federal MPs from Quebec.

George W. Stodley
Belleville, Ont.

Talking to horses

We were delighted to read your article on "Horse whispering" (Canada, Sept. 21) since our newly launched program, Equine Dynamics, comes the concept of communication with horses one step further: we train people through horses. Clear communication, gentle firmness and respect are key skills in self-development that can benefit everyone—from business executives to children in victims of abuse. Horses are wonderful creatures to work with because they mirror our feelings and provide immediate feedback. When you discover how a 1,000-lb animal responds to your direction, you feel like you can take on the world.

Douglas Baskett and Cheryl Glassman
Toronto

Pay equity

At the Human Rights Tribunal, using a legal formula, has determined that a group of public servants, mostly women, has been underpaid for many years. A Human Rights Tribunal is not a court of law. Their ruling was a defensible court issue. Was their calculation correct? Perhaps. But when the cost of that decision may be as much as \$5 billion, the federal government must appeal. The government represents all the taxpayers of Canada, not only the 206,000 public servants who stand to benefit from the decision. Much has been written about the pay-equity decision, but I have yet to see the salaries and benefits of these public servants, that the Human Rights Tribunal has ruled to be inadequate and the amount they now determine to be reasonable. If asked, the average taxpayer would complain that public servants are overpaid, receive more benefits and are recipients of better pensions than what is available for

comparable positions in the private sector. When taxpayers, who earn less, will be called upon to contribute to the cost of this decision, it is only fair that they are presented with the facts in this case.

David Proulx
Dartmouth, Ont.

So Carol Anne Goman's concern that the government owes her \$60,000 ("The price of equity," Canada, Sept. 7), Well, first of all, for "government" read "taxpayers," and second, nobody owes her a dime. If I felt that I was being underpaid, it wouldn't take 14 years, a union with a vested interest, and a massive press release from a non-political body to make me look for other work. Why doesn't the federal government simply ask the Human Rights Tribunal? That's what most people with any conscience have been doing for years. Oh, and Ms. Goman says that in her place of work "nothing is getting done" as a result of the federal decision. And how is that different?

Douglas Baskett,
Toronto

New learning ideas

A son who was only trained for dyslexia at the age of 22, I know what it means to face a lot of years of questions about

view reading and comprehension skills, and wish to thank you for making the time to address the problem ("Why kids can't read," Cover, Sept. 7). People with dyslexia are usually above average in intelligence. Most have developed very elaborate coping mechanisms to hide the fact that we see "saw" as "was" and can never remember if "7" or "9" comes first in any given word. Many of us work better in a society where everything is spoken rather than written. We need to find the ideal way to individualize to learn, not to try to design one system for all. Such a system will only continue to frustrate until it will teach.

E. Gross S.A.
Nascent A.C.

After reading your articles on "Why kids can't read," I had an inspiration. As an educator myself, I know that one's own schooling is often a crucial factor in a person's decision to become a teacher. Also, consider that parents of learning disabled children generally prefer segregated classrooms. Wouldn't it be a fabulous idea to

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create special schools (or programmes) for learning disabled students who want to become teachers? Then, who better to teach the mainstream classes than these graduates? With their very own personal experience, I'm sure they would make excellent teachers—both for others with learning disabilities, and also for those without.

Janet Anne Ross,
Burlington, Ont.

Tuition caps

I was shocked that the dean of the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario in London, Larry Timp, would say, "First, I had to get the God damned caps off them," ("Shutting the barn doors," Ann Dowd, Johnstone, Sept. 14). As a university student who is paying \$2,325.24 in tuition—(not including the additional costs of books and lab materials), which is more than \$500—the idea of getting rid of tuition caps is appalling. The Canadian Federation of Students has released statistics saying that "between 1985 and 1987, the consumer price index, the average annual change in

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costs of goods and services, rose 38 per cent. Over the same period, the tuition fee index also rose, the yearly average increase in tuition fees, rose 335 per cent." The thought that some universities wish to charge even more makes it seem as if education has become a rich person's privilege, and not a regular student's right. If students who are not wealthy are unable to attend university because of circumstances that they cannot control, the majority will probably never earn much more than minimum wage in a world where post-secondary education is key. If, by chance, they are able to take out a student loan, the only way to pay off that huge debt-hand by the time they are out of school is to take the high-paying job they can find in their field—which usually is in the United States. And you wonder why we lose our best students?

Andy Blyth
Montreal

'Lifting the silence'

Keen to Alan Fotheringham for ever-voicing his never-little battle with cancer. Though his Sept. 14 column was laced with his trademark wit, it also contained an important message: ("I was saying, before I was so rudely interrupted"). A few years back, Fotheringham also wrote an excellent piece about the winning interest in cancer research, largely because AIDS had become the "vogue" disease that celebrities threw their support behind. (This, despite the fact that cancer kills hundreds of thousands more people each year.) Hopefully, articles like Fotheringham's will help lift the blanket of silence surrounding prostate and other forms of cancer.

David Brown,
Toronto

It was with great sadness that I read about Alan Fotheringham's book with prostate cancer. I hope that his treatment went well and I wish him many more years of good health. One small trouble is about his column. Fotheringham referred to prostate cancer as a "male-only disease" and to breast cancer as a "female-only disease." Unfortunately, breast cancer is by no means a "female-only disease." Men also do suffer and die from breast cancer. If male pride makes it difficult for them to discuss prostate cancer, imagine how difficult it would be for a man to admit to his buddies that he has to have a mastectomy. Perhaps breast self-examination should be a priority for both men and women. Both of these diseases are a great tragedy and it is hoped that we can soon find a cure. And, yes, your health is more important than your pride. Take care of yourselves.

Mark Turner,
Aldie, Ga.

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Editorial Update

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As you read *your* current book and wonder what to read next, turn to the Net for a lively literary chat with two critically-acclaimed Canadian writers — Marlene Woodrow and Eric Spiekerman.

It's easy to arrange just log on to Maclean's website at www.maclean.ca and click on the magazine's electronic literary salon, presented in partnership with Writers in Electronic Residence (WEIR). The Marlene Woodrow offers an opportunity to discuss current literary news and events and issues with a diverse lineup of the country's leading writers and up-and-coming talents. Each month a different writer hosts literary chat on the line, posting new pieces for discussion each week.

In October, writer Marlene Woodrow takes up "Electronic audiences" with Marlene. An exciting new voice on the literary scene, Woodrow's most recent collection of short stories in *The Space House* explored gay and lesbian issues with a deft and humorous touch all of the talk invited by the theme of need.

And in November, Maclean's *on-line* forum welcomes acclaimed poet Eric Spiekerman. From his stunning debut effort, *Carrying Place* (published in 1995) to his latest book-length poem *Amber*, Spiekerman's words are renowned for their striking and surreal imagery.

This fall, go beyond the book and make a date to meet the country's best writers at [Newsstand Notes](http://www.maclean.ca.</p>
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Backstage



Anthony Wilson-Smith

How Chrétien bends the rules

In the parlance of sport, Jean Chrétien is a "runner" — the kind of guy whom you would love to have on your hockey team — and he's leather playing against. He would be first into the corner to go after the puck, never back down from an opponent, and do anything to ensure victory. As an opponent, he would be the pesky sort who slips in close to your ribs when the referee isn't looking, and pretenses for more goals even when his team holds a commanding lead. As a child — as author Lawrence Martin recounts in his biography, *Chrétien* (The PM at 50) — the future prime minister coached older, larger boys in the St. Lawrence amateur hockey system, and did not ready himself to the rules by allowing an ineligible player to ensure victory. And anyone who has been on a golf course with Chrétien can attest to the ferocious concentration he brings to every drive and putt.

But the distinction between being tough or mean and being evil can raise this, and the desire to win at all cost should matter more to an athlete than a prime minister who is supposed to base his actions on the concerns of 30 million people. These days, Chrétien is becoming a prescient jack-ham, riding roughshod over his own team, and punishing anyone who opposes him.

The most recent example is also the most startling: the issue of whether the Prime Minister encouraged the RCMP to use pepper spray and physical force to quash student protests at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Vancouver last November. At the least, the government documents related to the incident show that Chrétien and senior advisers were almost obsessed with concerns over bringing the legions of Indonesian then-president Suharto, a dictator with a long string of human rights abuses to his name. No suchopathy was directed toward the Canadian student demonstrators.

For those who oppose the Prime Minister, being in caucus government is a guarantee of obnoxiousness, or even worse. At a meeting in 1993, when cabinet ministers refused to believe Finance Minister Paul Martin's assertion that all departments must undergo budget cuts, the Prime Minister quelled dissent at once by telling them that if the minister asking for more money would have his or her budget cut by 30 per cent. Seven months later, after a damaging leak in the media about plans to reform social programs, Chrétien told cabinet that if such a leak occurred again, he would "kick the pants off two ministers out of a hat and fire them."

Last week, longtime Newfoundland MP George Baker (sheep brain, Maliseet) used to call "the most effective parliamentary performer" in the Liberal caucus (he left it as chairman of the House of Commons fisheries committee). The Prime Minister said Baker

resigned, Baker refused to comment. Other Liberals MPs said he had been fired. What is clear is that Baker has criticized federal fisheries department policies in the past. Also, earlier this year, there were the tirades from the Prime Minister of swift, harsh retaliation against Liberal MPs who refused to vote in favour of legislation restricting the number of people who could clean compensation from the government after receiving tainted blood transfusions. Although the move was clearly a moral one—and opposition parties had indicated that if the legislation did not pass, the government would not be expected to renege—Chrétien had fluffed his MP's into supporting the bill through threat of expulsion from caucus.

The job of prime minister is not for the weak-willed. Chrétien got them because, in part, his opponents continually underestimated him, and he refused to give in to the huge odds that seemed always against him. But there have always been two Chrétien. One is the public image of the back-slapping Everyman who loves his love for Canada on his sleeve. The other is the compact, cut-throat centrist who is deeply private, far more shrewd than given credit for, and, sad to say, increasingly callous and isolated.

This week, an RCMP Public Complaints Commission in Vancouver resumes hearings into the APEC incident. So far, Chrétien and his aides have seemed most interested in minimizing the incident and downplaying his role in it— even as they reject suggestions that he could best clear the air by testifying before the commission. Canadians might like to think that a government that brags of its "transparency" is led by a prime minister who leads by example. They might also hope that their prime minister, whether or not involved, would appear remorseful or console mad about the incident. None of that is likely to happen. So had the biggest loss is the Prime Minister, and some of the respect he has spent so much of a lifetime trying to win.

John del Papa, who died in Montreal last week at 81, was the sort of person who gives backbone to political organizers: a good name. Many Liberals will feel keenly the loss of a man who has put his heart and soul into the party for much of the past four decades. Former prime minister John Turner had no more devout friend and adviser than Papa, one of the few people who always expressed his views bluntly, without fear or favor. John del Papa's expansive network of friends will feel his absence most at hand, especially when they meet at his beloved Rita-Caroline hotel. Residents of Montreal's Square Mile have lost their official historical historian (though, forsoothly for some, he did not count everything he knew to be gospel). All who knew him will not soon forget him.

Maclean's

CANADA'S NEEDLESS NEWSPAPER

Published 16 times annually

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Printed in Canada by Quebecor Printing Inc.

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Opening Notes

Edited by TANYA DAVIES

Salvaging cargo

As the winter storm season looms, weary rescue teams are working to complete the salvage of debris from the horrific crash of Swissair Flight 111 in the waters off Peggy's Cove, which killed 229 aboard. The divers have recovered whatever visible human remains and debris they could safely collect. Attention has now turned to the fractured pieces of the plane—some with lucrative cargo. The jet was carrying millions of dollars' worth of diamonds, jewelry and antiques, and an original Picasso painting.

"We're not worried about scavenging," insists Helmut KCMC spokesman Sigi Bill Price, "because when we leave the area it will be totally clean. There will be nothing to be kept, period." Price is counting on the Sea Sorceress, a special used barge equipped with a large crane, to sweep the crash area before the end of the month. Sea trials investigation fear that rough seas could shift the debris, causing possible chaos to the cause of the crash. "Mother Nature is going to tell us when to stop," says Transportation Safety Board of Canada spokesman Jim Harris.

Picasso's *La Pasterie* (The Painter) and one other, undamaged, artwork were among the cargo lost in the Sept. 2 accident. The Pic was valued at \$8.3 million, yet was being transported in a normal freight container and has



been presumed destroyed. But the diamonds, jewelry and \$8.4M in banknotes were in a special container with reinforced walls and a locked sharm door. A military-enforced restricted zone is in effect around the crash site, but the KCMC has yet to decide whether to maintain it after the cleanup. "The recovery team is 180 feet underwater," says Price. "That is not a normal depth for a diver to go. People looking for treasures aren't going to get very far."

A section of debris from Swissair 111 where we leave the area it will be totally clean

CAPITAL CONFIDENTIAL

Jean Chrétien has always insisted much of the United Nations' repeated ranking of Canada as the best place in the world to live. In a Toronto speech on Sept. 18, he credited the stewardship of his Liberals for the organization's latest ranking, which proclaimed Canada No. 1 for the fifth year in a row. But the Prime Minister may soon have to find some new bragging rights. Last June, due to intense lobbying by Canadian social-welfare organizations, including the National Anti-Poverty Organization and the National Council of Welfare, the United Nations made a formal request for new information to determine how Canada really stacks up against the world in terms of guaranteeing basic social rights.

The United Nations asked 80 specific questions, and Heritage Canada may be handing over its answers as early as this week. Dubbed "priority concerns," the questions cover the interpretation

of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and seek to appraise Canadians' work conditions and the country's standard of living. The organization wants Canada to explain why it still has an increased reliance on expensive drug therapy for HIV and AIDS patients in regard to universal access to health care, as well as the growth in women's poverty and the climbing number of food banks. But the most embarrassing questions for the federal government may relate to how well it has implemented the recent recommendations of the November, 1994, Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which urged giving natives greater self-government and increased control over their lands. The government has by and large shelved the report! All of that means Canada could be in for closer scrutiny from the world body—and Chrétien's aides may have to find new ways to spice up their head's speechs.

EMPORIUM

Average number of major-league home runs per baseball game

In 1996 (excluding the record-breaking performances of Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa): 2.08
In 1995: 2.05
In 1996: 2.19 (a record)

Average attendance of a major-league baseball game

In 1998: 29,371
In 1997: 28,288
In 1996: 25,260
In 1995 (before the players' strike): 31,812

GOLDFARB POLL

Not surprisingly, the more Canadians get, the more likely they are to be thinking seriously about their retirement. According to a poll conducted by Mark Goldfarb and Sonja Stal, 2,008 adults aged 25 to 34 years old leading all other age groups in saying they plan to save at least a little. The level of consciousness grows in financial planning, for retirement, by percentage of 1,400 adults surveyed:

	Total	Under 25	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
All	28	13	20	25	37	46
Some or little	98	56	71	62	52	39
None	11	28	8	10	7	7
No response	3	3	1	3	4	9

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DOUBLE TAKE

Steve Bauer

For many athletes, the greatest possible thrill is a trip to the medal podium at the Olympics, but for Steve Bauer, one of the best cyclists Canada has ever produced, the victory of Picton, Ont., in the Niagara Triathlon was a silver medal at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles, finishing a 10-kilometre length behind American Alan Gersow in a 100-kilometre race that lasted five hours. But the highlight of his career came four years later at the Tour de France. He placed 10th in the grueling three-week campaign, after winning the day's yellow jersey for the last 150-plus metres for the day. "I was the first stage, and I elected to fly my best Tour de France," he recalls. "It was Canada Day to boot. It was a unique experience."

Bauer competed in the Tour—considered cycling's premier event—11 times before retiring from the professional circuit in 1996. Then, after living in Belgium for 11 years, he returned to the Niagara Peninsula with his Belgian-born companion, Annick Gies, and together they started Steve Bauer Bike Tours Inc. From mid-August until late October,



Steve Bauer with his wife, Annick Gies



Bauer, now 39, leads tourists and corporate groups on 30-km jaunts. Climbing the Niagara Escarpment, an ascent of about 45 m, is the steepest challenge of the day. "I enjoy the team atmosphere and spirit," he says of his life as an athlete. "But I don't need it."

Bauer earned \$750,000 a year at his peak, but says a divorce settlement five years ago—their 10th—ex share custody of their two children, 7 and 9—ruined his early retirement. He enjoys his business, he notes, adding, "I made a good choice to quit when I did."

DARICE JENKIN

POP MOVIES

Desire and deceit

With *Reign of Terror*, *Janet Jackson's* *Janet* and *Jeanne Phoenix's* *Irreversible* three of the hottest young stars of the '90s, star in *City of Angels*, a bizarre comic tale of desire, betrayal and homicide. Phoenix plays a Mandar girl-odd-on-off friend who continually finds herself in the wrong place at the wrong time—just as a murder victim is being discovered.

In *Reign of Terror*, a *Reign* (1997) ... 20,955,732
As *Janet Jackson's* *Janet* (1997) ... 20,952,532
Or *Urban Legend* (1998) ... 20,319,642
Or *There's Something About Mary* (1998) ... 20,016,408
Or *Dear John, Darling* (1998) ... 20,007,387
Or *Green Porno* (1997) ... 19,476,479
Or *Reign of Terror* (1997) ... 18,507,651
Or *Green Book* (1997) ... 16,940,728
Or *Angermeister* (1997) ... 15,851,676
Or *Re: Men* (1997) ... 15,956,366



City of Angels

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

- 1 *Guerrilla* (1997) ... 1,000,000
- 2 *Reign of Terror* (1997) ... 800,000
- 3 *There's Something About Mary* (1998) ... 700,000
- 4 *Angermeister* (1997) ... 600,000
- 5 *Re: Men* (1997) ... 500,000
- 6 *Urban Legend* (1998) ... 400,000
- 7 *Reign* (1997) ... 300,000
- 8 *Dear John, Darling* (1998) ... 200,000
- 9 *Green Porno* (1997) ... 180,000
- 10 *Green Book* (1997) ... 160,000
- 11 *Janet Jackson's* *Janet* (1997) ... 150,000
- 12 *Re: Men* (1997) ... 140,000

NONFICTION

- 1 *Empire* (1997) ... 1,000,000
- 2 *Death Land* (1997) ... 800,000
- 3 *Street Smart* (1997) ... 700,000
- 4 *In the Mountains* (1997) ... 600,000
- 5 *Inside* (1997) ... 500,000
- 6 *It's All in the Mind* (1997) ... 400,000
- 7 *It's All in the Mind* (1998) ... 300,000
- 8 *The Red Rose* (1997) ... 200,000
- 9 *Re: Men* (1997) ... 180,000
- 10 *Dear John, Darling* (1998) ... 170,000
- 11 *Re: Men* (1998) ... 160,000
- 12 *Re: Men* (1998) ... 150,000

Passages

CHIEF Report-winning television journalist Eric Maling, 52, of a brain hemorrhage, following a fall down stairs in his Toronto home. Maling was best known for his documentary work on CTV's *60 Minutes* and CBC's *The Fifth Estate*. The Swift Current, Sask., native was a reporter for the *Sask in the Sun* in Swift Current, Sask., *The Leader-Post* in Regina and *The Toronto Star*, before switching to television in 1974. His 1985 *60 Minutes* report on the *Timeline*—a man who had rocked the Manitoba government and prompted the resignation of John Turner—brought him national attention. In recent years, Maling struggled with alcohol abuse.

CHIEF Country singer and activist, nation artist Prairie Prince, 70, from sarcoid, following a long struggle with aphasia, an affliction that left her unable to speak, in Montreal. The Trans-Canada railway and her husband, the late part-time politician Gerald Godin, became synonymous with the sovereignty cause in the 1950s.

CHIEF John de Burgh Payne, 81, of cancer in Montreal. A consummate business executive, Payne worked in the Prime Minister's Office under Lester Pearson and later was a key member of John Turner's "Kitchen cabinet" in the years leading up to Turner's 1984 capture of the Liberal leadership.

CHIEF Singing cowboy Gene Autry, 90, in Los Angeles. Starting out with a \$5 mail-order guitar, he became a radio recording, TV and movie star. Autry then built up a multimillion-dollar broadcasting empire, and was the original owner of the California Angels baseball team.

CHIEF The first black mayor of Los Angeles, Tom Bradley, 60, of a heart attack, in Los Angeles. The son of a Texas sharecropper, Bradley rose through the ranks of the Los Angeles police department to become mayor in 1973, a position he held for 20 years.

CHIEF Jazz singer Betty Carter, 69, of cancer, in New York City. Carter became famous in 1960 with *It's Only Love*, a duet with Ray Charles.



'Drop the money'

BY JOHN GEDDIES

The aggression of Martin Solberg's attack gave away the fact that he had a anger to deliver. Leading off Question Period on Sept. 28 by asking Finance Minister Paul Martin about the multimillion-dollar surplus piling up in the Employment Insurance account, the Reform finance critic wasted little time in finding the TV newscasts their clip of the day. "Why does the minister not just drop the money?" he said, walking slowly, and keeping his hands where Canada can see them. Solberg added, shrugging the stern use of a cory-wim has caught the optimizer red-handed. There was no snappy answer for that one. Later Martin gave Solberg credit—once skilled honesty precludes to leaders—when they met at a dinner for Conservative finance ministers in Ottawa. "Paul said, 'The get to give the devil his due—that was very good,'" Solberg told Maclean's. "And I said, 'Paul, I'm an actor—I've given my line and I delivered it.'"

But there was more going on in the highly charged debate over EI than mere House of Commons theatrics. Solberg's case-layer resonated by playing on the growing fear in Liberal circles that Martin's per-

sonal credibility—the rock Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has built his government on—might for the first time be showing cracks. At issue is whether the government should keep on piling up more in EI government year after year than it pays out in benefits. This year, the program is expected to be \$7 billion in the black. The Reform party, the producers and business lobbyists are demanding a sharp cut in the premiums paid by workers and employers, to bring the program's accounts into balance. Martin counters that EI surpluses, which helped him sign off the deficit, should be maintained to pay for new programs and allow other taxes to be cut. "This time, he doesn't have an economic policy justification," Solberg said. "He's just saying, 'We need the money—and we're going to take it.'"

Martin might well be with a won that angle. In fact, the controversy over how Ottawa should be allowed to use the surplus stems from the complicated history of unemployment insurance. The program launched in 1940, only recently evolved into a cash cow. Through most of the 1980s, the safety net for Canadians who lose their jobs paid out just more than it brought in. It had to be topped up annually from general federal revenues. In 1986, the then-Conservative government took the advice of the auditor general and rolled the fund into the trust

With the Employment Insurance fund running a huge surplus, Ottawa is under pressure to give Canadian taxpayers a break

Martin Solberg (right): a growing fear in Liberal circles that the finance minister's personal credibility might for the first time be starting to slip

government accounts, so the financial drain would be clearly reflected in the budget. After the recession of the early 1980s, however, unemployment fell and the new Liberal administration tightened up the rules for collecting benefits. As a result, the EI account began racking up surpluses—and in time to contribute materially to Martin's drive to balance the budget. Now the government is likely to give up the revenues of his cause to rely on.

But the program was never designed to be just another tax. The Employment Insurance Act dictates that the premiums paid by workers and companies must be set at a level that ensures there is enough money to pay benefits. The act allows premiums to be set high enough to generate surpluses in good economic times, but only enough to offset any shortfalls when a recession hits and unemployment spikes up. Back in 1995, the government estimated it needed to build up a buffer of about \$8 billion in the EI account as a hedge against hard times. But by the end of this year, that accumulated surplus will have swollen to \$20 billion. Any pretense that the program is having run as a stand-alone insurance fund has long since been dropped. Instead, Martin concedes that excess EI revenues give the government cushion in uncertain economic times and the flexibility to pay for other good things. "This means that we will invest in health," he said last week in the House. "It also means that we will lower personal taxes for Canadians."

Martin now faces a politically dangerous confrontation with the Employment Insurance Commission, which oversees the program. Each fall the commission—a tribunal made up of a commissioner

representing unions, a second representing employers and a third named by the government—recommends premium levels for the next year. Last year, the commission passed a cutback. Martin intends to drop the rate by 20 cents—twice the amount he had planned for 1998. The premium paid by workers was slated to \$6.70 for every \$100 they earn up to a maximum of \$10,683 a year. The employers' rate is always set at 1.4 times the employee premium, or \$8.76 this year for every \$100 of pay. That 20-cent cut cost the government about \$1.4 billion—soaring as the pay tax burden for which, Martin's advisers argue, the Liberals gave little credit.

This year, the commission is leaning towards adding by a cut of up to 50 cents, which would come close to meeting the legal requirement that premiums should reflect the demand for benefits. A rate cut of that magnitude would cost Ottawa \$3.5 billion next year and rule out any personal tax reductions or significant new health spending in the 1999 budget, according to senior Liberal. Still, even officials opposed to such a steep reduction concede the commission may feel it has little choice but to recommend a rate low enough to comply with the law. "The commissioners are following the rules of the game," admitted one senior finance department official.

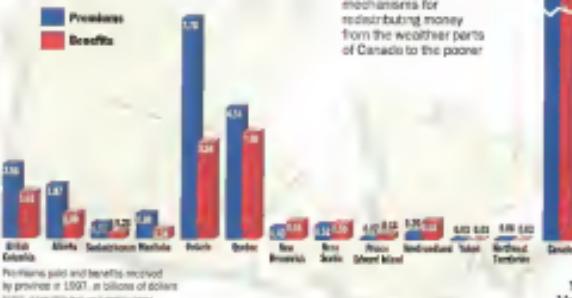
Martin has responded by considering changing these rules to suit his game plan. Among a range of options he has asked the cabinet to consider is a bold move to instead set an act to let premium levels remain higher than is needed to fund the EI program alone. The government cannot delay making a decision for long; the premium rate for next year must be set no later than December, to give Revenue Canada time to tell can what formula for payroll deduction to use next year.

The prospect of Martin moving decisively has given the government's critics a ringing and stinging blood. "They change the law, they will be failing the fact that hardworking Canadians are paying much more than they have to," Alberta finance minister Stanislaw Day told Maclean's. "In Alberta, we call that misappropriation of funds." Day and the previous will unanimously urge Martin to accept a \$9.20 cut at a "minimum ministers" conference in Winnipeg later this month.

In a telephone interview from Washington, where he was attending the sensational meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund last week, Martin told Maclean's that the on-

THE EI MONEY MACHINE

The Employment Insurance fund is one of the main mechanisms for redistributing money from the wealthier parts of Canada to the poorer



CALLING ALL HONORABLE CANADIANS



McLean's 13th annual House Bell of 13 trophy will appear in the December 21 issue, on sale on December 14. Readers are invited to submit nominations with recommendations of 50 words or less. To be honored, candidates must be Canadian citizens whose contribution to the life of the nation in 1998 is worthy of special recognition.

A panel of editors, senior candidates, former or not, from a wide variety of fields with only one exception: those engaged professionally in politics.

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honors@macleans.ca

CANADA

going forward in the global economy makes that the wrong time for the government to contemplate dramatic cuts to EI premiums. He argued that stripping the federal books of those hefty EI surcharges would leave Canada's national finances looking much weaker in international markets. And that would undermine Ottawa's ability to keep interest rates low, he added. "The world economy may be in for a really tough—what was it?—winter, year, 18 months or two years," Martin said. "My main responsibility as finance minister is to make sure that this country can weather the storm. I have to use every tool at my disposal, and the EI surcharge has been part of that from the beginning."

Martin insisted of the suggestion that using EI funds as part of the government's general flow of income is unconstitutional. He pointed out that it was the premiers, Conservative or not, who made the bad part of the government's consolidated revenues. "All this talk of moving from the account is counter-productive," Martin said. "Have these people got any idea what's happening in the world?" But he would not go into details about how he plans to mitigate around a possible tax-savvy clash with the Employment Insurance Commission over setting next year's rate. He hinted, however, that he leaves standing that part of the bill overhauled of the act. "The government is not going to do something illegal, but the government does have the means of dealing with this kind of an issue, even if it deals with it on a transitional basis," he said.

Some of the Liberal's adherents are drawing parallels between the stories Martin is weathering now over the EI situation and the sustained pressure Chretien has been enduring over the savings crackdown at last year's APEC summit in Vancouver. The two associations that the government will be Chretien and Martin, "Willie" Robinson, federal director of the right-leaning Canadian Taxpayers Federation, declared with satisfaction: "Now, they are both facing with that will stick."

Just how stable the EI dispute turns out to be for Martin could depend on how badly the Tories are wracked by another controversy. Last week, the drug of the Canadian Pension Plan's chief actuary, Bernard Dussault, exploded from an obscure case of bureaucratically misfiling into a full-blown political uproar. Dussault says he was dismissed in August because a review he was conducting saw the CFP was about to reveal potentially embarrassing problems with the plan's finances. He

will not discuss details, but one possibility is that his assessment would have shown the CFP deduction from Canadian paycheques might have to rise above the 9.9-per-cent maximum rate promised by the government when the plan was overhauled last year. Dussault says he was once asked to alter numbers to avoid embarrassing Maclean's—and refused. "It's not that I'm not a team player," he told Maclean's. "It's that to maintain the integrity I need to prepare a report. I cannot be subjected to bad arithmetic."

Dussault's former boss, John Palmer, the federal superintendent of financial institutions, held a news conference last week to refute the allegation that politics was behind the chief actuary's dismissal. Palmer said he fired Dussault over managerial differences, largely because other bureaucrats had long found it hard to work with him. And after Dussault publicly accused Palmer as the official who tried to interfere with the evolution of the financial health of the pension fund, Palmer maintained he was using Dussault's delineation. Under fire over the issue in the House, Martin cited any endorsement. "I never discussed that matter with Mr. Palmer," he said. "And Mr. Palmer, who he has since himself, will see after the fact that he had asked Dussault to resign."

Still, the questions raised by the Dussault affair have left Maclean's in an uncomfortable position. Alongside the insurance of the Canada Pension Plan, the two big federal payroll deductions tend to be lumped together as policy concerns. Any attempt now to step in openly to change the way EI premiums are set may actually be labeled a Dussault's allegation of clandestine political tampering with the CFP. The opposing parties are already linking the two issues. One senior Liberal, Jim Reid, who voted not to be named, said Martin is anxious to avoid being forced into taking any heavy-handed action on EI this fall. He is holding out hope that the Employment Insurance Commission can be persuaded to scale down its demand for a large cut in the premium for 1999. The commission is scheduled to make its formal recommendation in November. If no deal is reached by then, the government might choose to introduce legislation to override the commissioners' advice and maintain a higher rate. Such a move undoubtedly could save the government billions. How much it might cost Martin in terms of heralded political capital is harder to calculate. □



John Martin, a fast-blooming political speaker

**POLITICALLY CORRECT?
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JOHNNIE WALKER
RED LABEL



Pepper-spraying protesters on Nov. 25 had to start long before the summit

CANADA

Autumn days of dissent

Was the Prime Minister directly involved with the bust?

By JENNIFER BENTLEY

Just after lunch last Halloween, a group of costumed students trashed a newly constructed atrium at the back of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's residence on West Marine Drive to Norman McRae's chagrin. The spacious residence of the university's president, Martha Plast, Jonathan Oppenheimer, a 22-year-old physics student, wore a mask of Mickey Mouse mask. The friend, anthropology major Calie Sargeaen, had carved a pumpkin and placed it on her head. Victoria Scott, an art history graduate student, posed as Martha Plast herself, dressed in a suit and a baseball cap bearing Plast's slogan, "protect our UBC research. Think about it."

The three, all 26 years old at the time, were part of a group of about 30 students active in APEC Alert, a UBC-based group opposing the two-day Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation conference that was scheduled to hold its closing meeting on the

UBC campus on Nov. 25. A launch was being planned for APEC leaders in a newly constructed atrium at the back of Plast's house. And that is where the students headed. With a sizable contingent they scrawled graffiti, anti-APEC messages on the glass atrium walls such as "Say no to APEC." Plast was not at home at the time, but by 1:45 p.m., the RCMP—who were responsible for policing the campus, arrived and arrested Oppenheimer, Sargeaen and Scott, charging them with mischief. Sargeaen signed an undertaking not to protest again at the president's residence and was released later that day. But Oppenheimer and Scott refused—and were kept in jail for five days.

In the larger scheme of things, the Halloween incident at the Plast residence was minor compared to what subsequently happened on the UBC campus in the days leading up to and including the APEC summit: heightened police surveillance, increasing

numbers of arrests, the use of pepper spray in quelling nonviolent student protests. But the Oct. 31 graffiti protest certainly presaged those disturbing events, which have reached a crescendo that the Prime Minister's Office may have been directly involved in trying to snuff out student protest. And now, the crackdown on the UBC campus will be scrutinized by the RCMP Public Complaints Commission, whose hearings into security at the APEC summit resume this week in Vancouver.

The commission will examine the behavior of individual RCMP officers, the appropriateness of police security measures—and, in all likelihood, the role of the PMO. The RCMP have claimed that it was the largest security operation ever undertaken in North America: 2,300 of its officers and 700 members of the Vancouver police were employed to guard the 18 APEC leaders and their entourages. But the Hallucinations and the chronology of subsequent events

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CANADA

show the trouble between police and students started long before the first APEC protesters even rolled onto the campus.

UBC came to host APEC after former university president David Strangway officially visited the campus as a tourist in 1995. (In 1993, a second meeting between Russian President Boris Yeltsin and U.S. President Bill Clinton had been held there without incident.) In September, 1997, the federal government agreed to lease the spectroscopic Arthur Erickson-designed Museum of Anthropology and the president's residence for the APEC meeting. But there was mounting anger among UBC students that their campus would be the site of the summit. The newly formed APEC Alert began plotting the campus with posters decrying APEC and its participants, especially then Indonesian President Suharto and Chinese president Jiang Zemin, because of human rights abuses.

Internal federal government documents show police had tried to assuage concern at the Indonesian government about the "vulnerability of protesters"—and Suharto posters had been appearing in Canadian cities, dating fast forward—and assured Suharto would not be embarrassed by Canadian demonstrators critical of Indonesia's occupation of East Timor, a former Portuguese colony brutally invaded and annexed by the Indonesians in 1975. According to a government memo dated July, 1997, and dealing with a meeting between Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas,

Alatas said that if protest groups "could not be controlled and the dignity of the president was violated, the president would rather not come to Canada." Axworthy apologized for the anti-Suharto posters, saying they were "outrageous and unacceptable and not the way Canadians behaved."

One of the creators of those posters was Jaggi Singh, a radical activist and former UBC student deeply involved in an organization called the East Timor Alert Network. On Nov. 7, Singh and a group of UBC students demonstrated in front of the Museum of Anthropology, with Singh using a bullhorn to lead chants against Suharto. No arrests were made. But campus protests continued apace, and the week before the APEC summit, UBC students began to erect a tent city outside the Student Union Building. They called it Demoville, short for Democracy Village. "We felt our campus was being taken over by the APEC leaders, so the tent city was a way of creating our own meeting place," says Oppenheimer. Eleven students also raised tents on a small hill at the back of the museum.

But the federal government pressed to move up the date it was to take possession of the museum site—from Nov. 28 to Nov. 25—to it could clear the area of students. Chris Brown, the APEC-UBC liaison officer, informed *Maclean's* in a memo: "The federal government is seeking the co-operation of the provincial government to put pressure on the university to both evict students from the MoA site and agree to advancing the date on the agreement for

the federal government taking over the production of the museum property." On Nov. 22, four of the museum tent dwellers who refused to leave the area were arrested and charged with mischief. In order to secure their release, the four were required to sign an undertaking not to participate in anti-APEC demonstrations or rallies and to keep 100 m away from the APEC delegates.

Such actions only fed the tension, fear and anger of students. "We felt we were under siege," Oppenheimer recalls of the days just before the summit. "It was really scary. There were people taking our photographs and police were everywhere. Helicopters were flying over the campus and students tried to walk together in a group because we felt we could be arrested at any time." On Nov. 24, the day before APEC delegates were to arrive on the campus, there were more arrests. Early that afternoon, three plainclothes RCMP officers arrested Singh, during the Nov. 7 demonstration at the museum, who said he, balloon had accidentally dislodged a campus security officer. Singh was charged with assault, but released from custody after suggesting an undertaking that he would not set foot on the UBC campus during the APEC conference. Later that afternoon, around 5 p.m., another student, David Melo-Lewis, wearing a bright blue clown's wig, was nabbed by the RCMP after a small demonstration near a campus flagpole. Videotapes obtained by the RCMP complaints consciousness show him being pepper sprayed in the face at close range. But an hour later, Singh returned to the campus—and was promptly arrested again.

On the eve of the APEC meeting, a dimly, bone-chilling Vancouver evening, about 200 students stayed overnight in the Student Union Building. At least 60 braved the cold and camped in their tents at Demoville, in preparation for the next day's protests. Others were also getting ready. Among them was law student Craig Jones, 23, who sat at a campsite table right in his residence at Grouse College, situated about 200 m east of the anthropology museum. Until the APEC summit, Jones had never been involved in left-wing protest. Active in the B.C. Civil Liberties Association, pursuing issues such as freedom of expression, he was on the verge of graduating from law school and usually cashed in jeans for a suit and tie.

But when students began setting up tents at the museum, he decided he would become an observer for the associations. "These kids were being very peaceful," recalls Jones, now an articling student at a prestigious Vancouver law firm. "They were even putting their cigarette butts in Ziploc

MAP OF UBC GROUNDS



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CANADA

long so they wouldn't litter the museum grounds." After the Nov. 23 arrests, Jones went to the RCMP detachment where the four students were being held. He saw the undertaking they were required to sign—not to demonstrate—and, he says, "My civil liberties letters began to knock." As a result, Jones says, he decided "to personally test the RCMP's response to protest."

By the morning of Nov. 25, a security line had been stretched around the north side of campus, including the museum, to keep the crowd back. RCMP officers, meanwhile, were preventing students from placing signs on R. Jones decided to find a way around this restriction. He got some signs—"Democracy," "Free speech"—on two mailing envelopes and showed them to a detective that the students would pass. When the RCMP told him to remove the signs, Jones politely refused. He was pushed to the pavement, handcuffed and arrested, and kept in jail for the day.

Shortly after Jones's detainment, at about 9 a.m., 29-year-old Amritie Motteus, a PhD student in environmental microbiology from Germany, was detained as well. Motteus, who had volunteered to act as an APC (All People's Conference)—patrolling the crowd with a megaphone—hopped on her bicycle to find out what had happened to another peacekeeper, Janice Desouze. Desouze was supposed to observe an early morning demonstration by the East Timor (Aeta) Network, but radio contact with him had been lost. As she stood beside her bicycle on Northwest Marine Drive, when the students were beginning to pass, Motteus was handcuffed and arrested. In the police car she found Desouze. The two were taken to the Richmond detachment of the RCMP with at least 40 other students. Motteus was strip-searched and spent over seven hours in jail, according to police reports. "It was humiliating," she says.

About an hour later, some 2,500 protesters converged on Main Mall, a boulevard in the middle of campus. At Plaza Place, just across from the museum, students began to press against the security line. "I remember looking up and seeing all of these people and thinking to myself, 'This is going to be bad,'" recalls Yvonne Easter, assistant news director for CTV News radio, who was covering the summit. When two young women attempted to climb the fence, it suddenly tumbled over. "People started scrambling to get out of the way," Easter says. And then the pepper-spraying began. "I didn't get sprayed as badly as some of the others," Easter says. And she maintains there was no other way police could have controlled such a large crowd. "There were too many people and not enough police," Easter explains.

After a second spraying the crowd dispersed and students went to block routes near Gate 3, where the protesters were supposed to leave. But police determined that the exit through Gate 6 at Northwest Marine Drive was the best route because it had the fewest protesters—only 25 students. Just before 4 p.m., police came in and pepper-sprayed the students out of the way. "I didn't intend to fool around," Staff Sgt. Hugh Stewart is heard shouting as a videotape of the incident. "I intend to clear this road and I intend to clear it now."

By the end of the afternoon, hundreds of people had been pepper-sprayed, one student bitten by a police dog, and at least 20 had been arrested. (All charges, except the one against Stough, were dropped after the conference had ended.) Police activities will now be examined by the commission. "We are very much looking forward to all the facts coming out," says RCMP Sgt. Brian Gibb. "People will be able to have a much clearer understanding of what happened at APC." But some students, such as Jones, have become radicalized by the experience. "I'm still now, I never would have doubted a police officer," Jones says. "Now, I see their bias as a matter of routine, as in reflex, and it is really disturbing." Last week, he launched a class action suit against Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, Anthonys and others, saying they conspired against constitutional rights and freedoms by preventing "peaceful and lawful public protest." They are right, and freedoms that Jones and the other students are determined never to lose again. □

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CANADA

No life in the party

Last week was crunch time for the five candidates who envisioned themselves leading the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada into the next millennium. The deadline for signing up new party members was Sept. 26, and the various campaigns spent the final hours in a frantic push to boost its ranks of the 310 party cards as possible. In Terrebonne, David Orchard's campaign headquarters took on the frenetic atmosphere of a stock market trading floor. Sleep-deprived volunteers, their voices raw, mapped out telephones trying desperately to recruit new members willing to pay by cheque, money order or even credit card. Working in rooms littered with press boxes, they punched names into computers and swept up newly signed membership forms springing out of fax machines. And from Jon Clark's campaign office, there was a parade to party headquarters downtown, where boxes containing the names of new members were headed in just before the midnight cutoff.

But the backroom activity masked the underlying reality—the leadership race to replace Jean Chretien has so far failed to stir the imagination of Tories, let alone Canadians at large. Except for former prime minister Clark, who, for better or worse, has been a household name for more than two decades, none of the candidates has a national profile. And party insiders acknowledge that the final

votes, which are divided proportionally among the candidates, (balloting will take place on Oct. 26. If no candidate collects more than 50 per cent of the vote, there will be a runoff ballot on Nov. 14.) The new rules were made with an eye to drama, creating the party, and ensuring that the 1993 campaign, in which the party establishment stampeded to embrace Kim Campbell, would not be repeated.

Indeed, the Tories condemned themselves to a lackluster and snowdriftly process. It has forced campaign staff to become political telephonists. Clark's workers, for example, claim to have had some success by identifying pollster's survey ratings where the Tories did well in the last general election and making cold calls to voters. But all campaign networks agree, it has been a hard slog to recruit former members, let alone sign up new ones. "It was a well-motivated attempt to recruit new members," says Darrell Birdsell of De Angus and Polling Inc., who was once director of research in former Conservative prime minister Brian Mulroney's office. "But it has turned into a suicide pact for the party." Party officials agree. "This race is harder than a doomsday," concludes one Tory senator.

For strategic reasons, no camp wanted to be too specific last week about how many members it had recruited. But organizers for Clark, the acknowledged front-runner, say they signed up a minimum of 30,000 supporters, which hardly seems enough to propel him to the first-ballot victory he hoped for. All veteran party strategists (high Sage's name will confirm) is that their campaign signed up a minimum of 30,000 voters in the province of Quebec. Montreal lawyer Michael Forney has recruited 6,000, almost all of them in Quebec, according to his adviser. And And Wal, a spokesman for Péladeau, says his candidate managed to recruit 3,000 members within Manitoba alone, though support for the former provincial cabinet minister is expected to be significant outside his home province. Tory membership rolls would have remained even lower but for Saskatchewan farmer David Orchard's giddy campaign. Orchard's organizers new calculate they have recruited as many as 32,000 new members—brought to the party by Orchard's decidedly no-Tory anti-free-trade campaign.

Now, the party has a trying to work out a deal with the television networks which would give the candidates a limited chance to try to stir up excitement with speeches on Oct. 25. But even if that happens, the Tories have missed a chance to remind all Canadians of their role in the country's political life. And for a fifth-place party fighting for survival, that could be a fatal miscalculation.

Frustrated
Tories are
blaming
the voting
process

Clark (above);
Reggie Manton



JOHN DEMONT in Ottawa



nautica

Besieged by stress

In April 1994, nearly a year after arriving in Africa, Maj.-Gen. Roméo Dallaire found himself a seemingly helpless soldier caught in one of history's darkest moments. As commander of the United Nations' feeble peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, Dallaire and his troops were witnessing some of the most horrific scenes of slaughter the world had seen in decades. Denied reinforcements by his superiors at UN headquarters in New York City, the Blue berets could only watch as more than 800,000 Rwandans—mostly ethnic Tutsis—were hacked to death. Ten Belgian peacekeepers under Dallaire's command were also murdered, and questions about whether those bloody events of 1994 could have been avoided still haunt those involved.

Controversy has followed the Canadian general home. Greeted at first as a hero who did his best despite being abandoned to overwhelming odds, Dallaire has been pursued by the families of the dead Belgians, who triggered a Belgian parliamentary inquiry into his role in their deaths. He also encountered criticism from fellow Canadian officers who maintained that Dallaire's abdicated willingness to talk openly about the trauma of his Central African nightmare was a sign he is unable to let go. The pressure, intensified last week in an order from Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Maurice Baril that Dallaire take a month of stress-related leave from his current post of personnel chief at defence headquarters. Before departing, Dallaire sent an e-mail to subordinates, telling them: "It has been assessed essential that I recharge my batteries due to a variety of factors, not the least being the impact of my operational experiences [Bosnia 1994] on my health."

Friends say Dallaire is expected in return to duty, although some officers speculate that his e-mail's exhortation to "recharge his batteries" means "They'll withdraw, don't give up"—read like a mandatory. But the majority surrounding Dallaire's personal battle with emotional

distress, for which he has received medical treatment, has focused unprecedented attention in the Canadian military on the condition known as post-traumatic stress disorder—and its effects on preceding troops who have had to deal with the horrors of Somalia, Bosnia and Croatia, as well as Rwanda, in the last decade.

This week, Gen. Baril will be adding his comments to an unprecedented 30-minute

The horrors of Rwanda haunt a general



Dallaire: focusing attention on a watershed problem in the military

Acceptance of the psychological problems experienced by soldiers has been a long time coming. During the First World War, they were condemned for "shell shock" and other post-injury stress. Attitudes were less negative in the Second World War, and in the last 20 years they have changed dramatically—largely because of the American experience in Vietnam. But despite an acknowledgement of the problem, Ottawa only undertook concerted efforts for a treatment program in 1994. Maj.-Gen. Randy Bodkin, a psychiatrist and now the chief specialist in the area, has been instrumental in heightening awareness of post-traumatic stress disorder. This year, he expanded the original program to include two weeks of hospital treatment at the military's Health Care Centre in Ottawa, followed by six months of group therapy. "We're trying to break us up," says Bodkin.

But, he adds, the military remains hampered by a "macho" mindset. The doctor says it is often impossible to convince sufferers to seek treatment. The fact that Dallaire, a senior officer who need make no apology for his conduct under fire, underwent similar treatment has been instrumental in getting the new program approved.

Other countries face the problem as well. Last month, a NATO meeting in Berlin dealt with the topic and the alliance is preparing a report expected to focus on how to prepare soldiers to witness calamity. "There is a natural pride of tough soldiers and they believe they have the ability to take whatever comes," says Col. Jim Sykes, a U.S. army psychiatrist based in Texas. "They seem afraid and defective during these crises and feel cowardly. They've got to know that things like that are a part of life for some people."

The Canadian videotape is expected to be put into use in mid-October. In one scene, a soldier sits while describing his feelings when he first encountered seemingly motionless bodies of massacred children. "This is very tough to watch," one officer who has seen the video told Maclean's. But as long as Ottawa remains keen on committing troops to new missions in unstable places, Dallaire may have helped spark a consensus that Canadian soldiers should at least go in with their eyes open.

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THE RED CROSS BOWS OUT

After 25 years of managing Canada's blood supply—and a decade after United Blood Interests left—G—the Red Cross officially handed over control of the system to replacement agencies. Canadian Blood Services in English Canada and Héma-Québec have inherited all of the Red Cross's blood collection assets—and many of the charity's problems, including a steady decline in donations.

FROM EAST TO WEST

Former Newfoundland premier Brian Peckford released his findings on Ottawa's management of the West Coast fishing Commissioned by B.C. Premier Jim Clark, the report severely criticized Ottawa's decision to sharply limit the 1988 salmon catch and demanded compensation for affected fishermen. While in office in the 1980s, Peckford, who now lives on Vancouver Island, fought the federal government for control of the East Coast fishing.

JUMPED OR PUSHED?

Outspoken Newfoundland Liberal MP George Baker, who led the Commons fisheries committee through recent reports highly critical of Ottawa's role in the collapse of East Coast cod stocks, will no longer chair the committee. Peter MacKay, John Crosbie and Baker himself say he was stepped down involuntarily, but Liberal MPs—speaking anonymously—claim Baker was dumped for his persistent attacks on Liberal government policy.

A JUDGE FIGHTS BACK

Quebec Court Judge Louis Carrier filed a \$2.3-million lawsuit against three television journalists and their employer. Carrier claimed they wrongly reported that he had sentenced three rapists to only two years' imprisonment in 1987, rather than the 68 months he had actually given them, and libeled opinion against him with other "false and deceitful" stories.

GOON LAW UPHELD

The Alberta Court of Appeal, in a 3 to 2 decision, ruled that Ottawa's gun control laws are constitutional. Four provinces had challenged the law because it infringes on property rights, but the court and two justices who previously had predicted it was justified by Ottawa's responsibility for criminal law.

The \$100-million wages of SIN

Over one million with 25 social insurance numbers used them to file \$6.565 billion in bogus Employment Insurance claims. Another man submitted 86 SINs to Bremar Canada and collected \$23,000 in his refunds. Three people used 29 false SINs to claim an auto-endorsement of \$1.1 million. Those were just three examples cited by Auditor General Denis Desautel, who took up his坐位 in a scathing report to Parliament that the 34-year-old SIN system was an administrative shambles.

Desautel also found that the \$1.06 million in fraud each year. Desautel also released other reports detailing instances of federal mismanagement and waste—including Ottawa's failure to disclose the final cost of land-claims deals with native bands—but it was the SIN study that put the federal government on the defensive.

The federal government introduced the nine-digit SIN code in 1984 to provide the numbers for Canada's Pension Plan. Since then, their use has spread throughout government and the private sector, making do de facto national identity cards, but with



Desautel: an administrative shambles

out any features to safeguard privacy or prevent fraud. To obtain a card all applicants need is a birth certificate—before 1976 not even that was necessary—and the cards are never can called. As a result, Desautel revealed, there are 4.1 million more issued SIN cards than there are adult Canadians. That number includes 711,000 cards supposedly belonging to citizens older than 100. The vast majority of those people are now dead—the 100-plus-year records only 2,000 entries.

But the ease with which cards can be obtained, the ease with which general

indicates there is an urgent need for action to protect public funds and taxpayers."

Desautel recommended an extensive parliamentary review of the entire SIN system. On attack in the House of Commons, Human Resources Minister Pierre Pettigrew, whose department is responsible for the SIN registry, said his team was already acting on the report and would work with the provinces to create check birth and death certificates to weed out false numbers.

A helicopter tragedy

HOSPITAL

'I miss him dearly'

HOSPITAL

The longest inquest in Manitoba history—covering the deaths of 12 child heart-surgery patients at Winnipeg's Health Sciences Centre in 1988—finally concluded after nearly three years.

Provincial Court Justice Murray Saxe, whose report is expected only next year, found former chief medical officer

and the medical director of surgeon John Odman—the newly appointed cardiac who arrived to take over the program in February 1988, and performed 182 operations.

The centre's horrendous death rate, notorious battlefield and medical

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Enter the fixer

Germany's new chancellor is pragmatic—and ruthless

The invitation, typical for the times, unequivocally demanded a meeting at 5:30 in the morning. It came from the broad young man, a self-described "committed Marxist" by the name of Gerhard Schröder, who had recently been elected leader of Germany's Young Socialists, the youth wing of the Social Democratic Party. And it was sent to Gerold Preuss, then, in now, manager director of the largest employers' organization in the north German state of Lower Saxony. "They wanted to talk about right shifts in the [Industries]," writes Preuss, recalling the early morning conference 20 years ago. "But I don't think they really expected me to show up, especially in a suit and tie. Everybody else wore jeans. And when it was all over, Schröder took me aside, congratulated me on my courage, and said he'd like to talk with me again."

The two have been meeting regularly ever since, all the way along the remarkable path that Schröder has followed in transforming himself from youthful leftist firebrand to chancellor-elect of Germany. When he was elected last week, toppling Helmut Kohl from the throne he occupied for the past 16 years, Schröder was instantly catapulted into the front ranks of global political figures as leader of Europe's most populous nation and the world's third-busiest economy. Precisely how he managed the feat is still a subject of heated debate, as is the cause Germany is likely to end up with Schröder at the helm. But there is the suggestion of an answer to both these questions in his behavior on that morning long ago. "He may like to play the part of the rebel," says Preuss, "but there has never been an ideological home in Schröder's body, not even during his Marxist days. He's a fox, a problem-solver, as pragmatic as it is possible to be, always prepared to listen, always prepared to talk."

Sensible, in fact, that Germany's 88 million people may still know more about their new leader's four marriages than his fundamental beliefs, even if voters were confident enough in his abilities to hand him an unexpectedly easy victory. Schröder's Social Democratic Party, or SPD, captured 45.9 per cent of the vote, winning 288 seats in the 669-seat Bundestag. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union managed only 35.2 per cent, for 242 seats, and Kofi said he would step down as its chief. While still short of a majority, Schröder appeared well on the way to solving the problem when he opened negotiations last Friday with the environmental Greens, the third-largest party in the Bundestag with 47 seats. If the talks result, as is widely expected, in what the Germans call a "red-green" coalition, Schröder will command a comfortable 21-seat majority and be able to second Kofi by next October.

When he does, modern Germany will for the first time have an occupant of the chancellor's office with no memory of the Second World War, thereby free of all the existential constraints wrought by that trauma. Schröder was an infant in Münsterberg, a small town in Lower Saxony not far from the state capital of Hannover, when the



BARRY
CADE
IN HANNOVER

war ended in 1945. He was born in April, 1954, weeks after his father, Fritz, an army conscript, was killed in Siamois fighting the Russians. His mother, Rita, now 43, struggled to raise five children in desperate conditions. In the immediate postwar years, she managed to eke out a living as a cleaning lady at a British army barracks. But the family was so poor that young Gerhard was forced to leave school at 15 to work as a trainee salesman in a porcelain shop. "He knows where he comes from," says Hein-Bertram White, president of the Lower Saxon branch of the German Trade Unions Federation. "It's probably the main reason why he has clearly shown that, when the situation is critical, he always stands on the side of the workers."

While helping to support his family, Schröder studied at night school, eventually earning a law degree from the University of Göttingen. Upon graduation, he quickly moved into left-wing politics, winning a reputation in the courtroom for defending Red Army Faction terrorist Hans Möhring and another reputation outside the courtroom as one of former SPD chancellor Willy Brandt's bright young men. By 1976, Schröder was leader of the Young Socialists and an avowed Marxist, organizing street demonstrations against the United States and the deployment of NATO-sponsored medium-range nuclear missiles in Germany. In 1980, he won election on a leftist SPD ticket to the Bundestag in Bremen.

EUROPE'S LEFTWARD SHIFT

In the past two years, voters in Western Europe's four largest countries have ousted old conservative governments in favor of left-of-center administrations. And Spain is now the only member of the 15-nation European Union with a truly right-wing government, elected in 1995.

Country	Population	Type of government	Changed from conservatism
Germany	81 million	Social democrat	1998
Italy	58 million	Social democrat	1997
France	55 million	Socialist	1997
Spain	37 million	Centre-left	1996

Not long after that election, Schröder was caught in a revealing incident that is often cited as evidence of his vaulting ambition. After a night drinking with friends, the future chancellor happened to wander by the offices occupied by then-Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Schröder chambered up the iron gate outside the office and hung there. "Want to go here?" he shouted, shaking the iron bars, as the police arrived and ushered him to move along.

As he rose in politics, Schröder gradually began to drift towards the centre, shedding the leftist ideological culture that, according to acquaintances like Preuss, was never much more than a cause anyway. Significantly, he was one of the few young SPD activists who refused to abandon Schmidt when his government fell in



Schröder and his wife Doris: voters knew more about his former marriages than his fundamental beliefs

1982, a year that was returned during the recent election campaign when Schröder became the first SPD candidate to win Schmidt's endorsement since the former chancellor left politics.

It was not until 1990 that Schröder's final transformation as a politician of the center took hold. That occurred when he won election as premier of the state government in his native Lower Saxony, serving as head of the same kind of "red-green" coalition he is now constructing on the national scene. He might never have succeeded in Lower Saxony, however, had it not been for the energetic assistance of his third wife, Hiltrud, better known among

Germany by the diminutive "Hilla." An attractive, vivacious environmentalist, vegetarian and animal-rights activist, Hilla served as Schmidt's boudoir to the junior partners in his coalition government, the Greens. "She gave him the credibility he needed among the tree-huggers and their friends," confides one of Schmidt's political associates in Hannover, requesting anonymity. "They became pretty famous, but only around here but right across Germany. The media dubbed them the 'Clowns of Hannover'."

Still, wonder, then, that Schmidt's national political ambitions nearly floundered in 1996, when his marriage to Hilla suffered a spectacular collapse. He left his wife, then 43, and her daughter by a previous marriage for Doris Kopt, a 34-year-old environmentalist and single mother of a five-year-old daughter. Hilla's first reaction was to be her estranged husband drawn from the family home in Hannover. Soon, she was appearing on television and in newspaper interviews, describing her former mate as a "conservative and egomaniac opportunist" who had not only betrayed her but also his own political convictions about the dangers of nuclear energy, the need for environmental protection and a host of other ecologically oriented issues. Finally, Hilla published a tell-all book, *On Our Part*. "For Gerdi," says Schröder's political associate, using the nickname favored by his intimate friends, "it all could have been very damaging."

The fact that it was not given much to another of Schröder's traits—his ruthlessness. Even before Hilla began broadcasting the couple's woes, Schröder and his entourage were carefully leading items to the media that portrayed his third wife as something of a free-spending heiress, constantly interrupting cabinet meetings with demands for action to save endangered species, pestering her husband at home with lectures about the natural world. There was even one judicially timed tirade early that claimed Schröder was so annoyed for meat in Hilla's veggie-stuffed kitchen that he was frequently forced to stop at roadside stalls peddling everyone—sausages, sausages, sausages—with carry and drawn sword, an anachronism in Germany as the hunting is in North America.

In the end, it was Schröder who was the public relish-the-blowhard, hurling an obscenity that might well have torpedoed his quest for the chancellorship. His denunciation from Hilla was finalized in September of last year. Three weeks later, he married Doris. The Christian Democrats attempted to exploit Schröder's four marriages during the recently canceled election campaign,

WORLD

young posters and Tidbits bearing the slogan "Three women can't be wrong." But the critics failed, perhaps because Schuyler herself betrayed no reluctance to discuss her marital arrangements. "I'm a coast-and-gone," she joked with reporters on one celebrated occasion. "I may swap wives every 12 years, but I'm faithful in between." At which point, Dennis wryly chimed in: "Next time, you'll need somebody to push your wheelchair."

Before that occurs, Schroeder has other priorities at the top of his immediate list: the agenda is to align with the Greens as a red-green coalition strong enough to govern for the next four years. The process, expected to take at least two weeks, is not going to be easy. But when it is completed, it is likely to bring three, perhaps three, Greens into Schroeder's December cabinet. One of among these will be the Greens' parliamentary leader, Joschka Fischer, who is almost certain to be appointed foreign minister. In return for a share in power, the Greens will no doubt be required to blunt some of their more extreme demands, such as their call for an immediate closure of the 18 nuclear power stations that supply roughly one-third of Germany's electricity.

Even if the Greens' wagons are muted, Germany under Schroeder is clearly going to be a different place than it was under Kohl. In a larger sense, however, Germany's voters merely followed a European trend to the left. Ten of the European Union's 15 government coalitions are now either social democrats or socialists. Including those in Britain, France and Italy—a dramatic reversal of the situation in the early 1980s. The remainder are essentially centrist except for Spain's Rodriguez Zapatero, who heads the only government that is staggeringly conservative.

What all of this means is that
such agonized discourse, particularly among
the advocates of enlightened constitutionalism,
for there is one issue on which the majority of the party's
left-wing government agrees, is the need for a more
form of state regulation to curb the excesses of
free-market capitalism. Schroeder and his party
last week were darning a tear in their best blue since
winter, when he called for a reorganization
of the global financial system. He delivered
the remarks in the presence of French Prime Minister
Jean-Pierre Raffarin, a committed socialist who has
recently denigrated capitalism as "a form that
exists, but which does not know where it is going."
Raffarin is one of those who think the time is
right to "revise" capitalism. Other key leaders,
including British Prime Minister Tony Blair
and U.S. Pre-select Bill Clinton, concur to varying
degrees, as is what else can I say? *The Wall Street Journal*
With Germany's new chancellor adding his own
enthusiasm to the chorus, the country's voters have
now engendered a turning point not only at
Germany's altars, but in global markets.

THE GREENS COME OF AGE

His arrival in German politics was anything but auspicious, certainly not the kind of debut expected of a future foreign minister. On his first day in the Bundestag in Bonn 15 years ago, Joachim Fischer showed up wearing blue jeans and a soiled white t-shirt. The newly elected parliamentarian, then 35, quickly won the enmity of his fellow legislators by describing them as "an unbelievable gathering of alcoholics" assembled in a "chaos" "striking of plain old schnapps". And when he was called to task and ordered

pace negotiations are complete, Fischer is likely to be appointed Germany's new finance minister.

that prospered has faced plenty of eyebrows among Germany's élites. Despite Fischer's status as one of the country's most charismatic political figures, he may return a lone cannon to the Greens, in fact, came close to self-destructing in the recent election campaign by advocating the abolition of NATO, the withdrawal of national troops from the former peacekeeping mission, the halting of grain prices for Germany's beleaguered automakers and punitive taxes on sun-sea-sun charter flights. The Greens' poll ratings quickly plummeted by half, to less than one per cent from 12. On election day, the party won 6.7 per cent of the vote, still enough to emerge as the third-largest in the Bundestag with 43 seats.

"To an outsider, we might sometimes appear to be chaotic," admits Michael Peltz, director of the Greens' political organization in Lower Saxony, Schröder's native state. "But our senior leadership across the board is very professional." That is no doubt true. Fischer, for one, is widely acknowledged to be one of the most effective members in the Bundestag. The problem is the Greens are constantly run into by federalist "leading between the Auslands—the fundamentalists' intent or Closely adhering to the party's original goals—and the reformists—the reformists like Fischer who want to be, as he recently remarked, "members of a reforming party rather than advocates of pure opposition to the system."

Reebok saw its trade jacket and T-shirt for the summer of a forever jacket.

he apostasy by the Bundestag's Speaker, he tartly replied: "With respect, Mr President, you are an atheist."

Fischer has changed considerably since that day in 1980, almost as much as the political force he represents. Germany's Greens were not then really a political party, but rather an uneasy coalition of militant environmentalists, pacifists, feminists, socialists and communists. Today, however, for the first time in their short but noisy history, the Greens stand on the brink of national power, poised to become junior partners in chancellor-elect Gerhard Schröder's coalition government. And if that comes to pass, Fischer, the Greens' parliamentary leader, may have to don democratic pretences in place of the jeans and black T-shirt he still favors. Schröder has already made it clear that

part in the 1979 kidnapping in Wiesa of oil ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries—an attack that resulted in three deaths and was organized by Irish Republican Sanchez, better known as Carlos. Fischer, at his appennents were back to remind voters, once shared a house with Kieser. The Green leader, in fact, was investigated by police in 1978 after a car he sold to Kieser was discovered with a trunkload of arms stolen from a U.S. army base. Fischer strenuously denies he was ever engaged in terrorist activity. "I've never heard a single word of my past," he told German media. "I know that I did nothing." All the same, some credentials for the prepared foreign minister of a key member of NATO.

A person wearing a cowboy hat and a light-colored shirt is riding a horse, silhouetted against a bright, hazy sky. The scene suggests a sense of determination and freedom.

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WORLD YUGOSLAVIA

Last days of terror

Massacres in Kosovo provoke new NATO threats

In the ethnic Albanian hill village of Vranje in Kosovo, charred ruins of muted homes were still smoldering. Villagers searched for their possessions in a mile-long column of baracca and twisted trunks, traders and cars. Old women, weeping, held their breath as they identified the remains of five men, said to be foreign reporters and international officials—including members of the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague—begin investigating, survivors in Vranje and other towns in Serbia's angry southern province told of a horrific reign of terror by Serbian police in the final days of a sweeping offensive against the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army. Belgrade finally called a halt to the operation on Sept. 28, but last week's gains took NATO closer than ever to ordering punishing air strikes on Yugoslavia.

Yugoslic had been a final refuge for thousands of refugees fleeing the advance of government forces. More than 500 vehicles and horse-drawn carts were hauled up along a dirt track winding into a valley between their own parents, the Serbian artillery began firing to subdue resistance and engulf all inhabitants before ground troops and armored vehicles moved in. Tattered men, women and children fled into nearby forests (they were surrounded). Told by police that it was safe to come back down to the village—and with little other choice—they started up their columns and headed slowly into Vranje.

There, the real nightmare began. Villagers described how police separated several

hundred men from the women and children. Andrija Kalogje, 22, and three men were dragged away into the trees and killed. Foreign reporters saw the corpses in the grounds of the local mosque. Two had machine-gunned their ears and noses off! The remaining prisoners were forced to hold up their fingers in the Serbian national salute and shout "Serbs! Serbs!" before being taken to a prison in the town of Prizren. "They beat us one by one and gave us electric shocks," said Kalogje. "They said: 'Are you KLA?'"

Official in Yugoslavia President Slobodan Milosevic's government either denied the massacres took place or blamed the deaths on the KLA. The United Nations took a different view, however. The Security Council condemned the atrocities and issued a credible report on the situation from Secretary General Kofi Annan. NATO planning was in its final stages. But senior diplomats in Belgrade and Kosovo were still skeptical that NATO would carry out its threat of missile and air strikes to stop the conflict, given that the government had announced a cessation of hostilities. By midweek, Kosova was relatively calm, and there were the first credible signs of a substantial troop withdrawal. "Slobodan Milosevic went to the bridge and has stopped back," one ambassador.

Should the village burning and killing resume, NATO would call in. U.S. missiles will strike at selected military targets—a few at first and then progressively increasing until Belgrade surrenders. But whatever military surface plays out, the human tragedy will continue. Tens of thousands of Kosovo's 300,000 refugees are still living in the open—and facing a cold, cruel winter.

GUY DINWIDDIE in Belgrade

Massacres in Vranje carry many a body and over 100 people may have perished

were drunk and forced the women to dance with them. "They put knives to our throats and told us to say above the KLA were or they would come back and kill us," she recalled. Listening to her account, other villagers wondered whether she may have been raped but her house would never allow an Albanian woman to say so.

According to villagers, some police were bandanas, black hats and camouflage paint. Diplomats said such special units were believed responsible for a series of atrocities in Kosovo, beginning with the intention of turning civilians into breakaway fighters links with the KLA. The same weekend of Sept. 26 and 27 the pattern of atrocities was repeated in several other villages. 31 more victims remained dead and well over 100 people may have perished. In the woods around the central village of Gorice Gorge, Western journalists found the bodies of 20 men, six women and four children. The youngest, Valentin Deda, was 28 months old. Most had been shot at close range in the back of their heads or had their throats cut.

In nearby Goljakovac, the sole survivor of an alleged execution of 23 or 24 men held in a basement that police had separated from women and children and taken them to a factory. There they were beaten and stabbed with long implements, then sprayed with machine-guns. He was shot in the arm and leg but survived by pretense to be dead. Bloodstained on the ground and an armchair, and many bullet-shells, appeared to back up his account.

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WORLD UNITED STATES

The Tripp trail

Congress releases a last burst of tawdry detail

By Steve Kroft
Washington bureau

ANDREW PHILLIPS
IN WASHINGTON

Monica Lewinsky is sharing a cheeseburger and fries with her friend Linda Tripp in a suburban Washington hotel. It is Jan. 13 and unbeknownst to Lewinsky, Tripp is wearing a concealed microphone and their conversation is being recorded by FBI agents. At one point, Lewinsky says she is planning to swear that she never had sex with Bill Clinton. The meticulously curated evidence collected by independent counsel Kenneth Starr deems the conversation false.

Tripp: What is the defense of sex?

Lewinsky: I never had intercourse. I did have a sexual relationship.

Tripp: Oh, you've been around long too long.

And on and on and on, for three volumes and a total of 4,610 pages. The final load of testimony transcripts, notes, photo logs and photographs made public last week by the House of Representatives committee looking into the Clinton-Lewinsky affair could easily match the details and texture to a story in which all too much is known. Lewinsky's conversation with Tripp follows that on the line. White House interns, though knowing the rest of her relationship with the President, had come to share his disingenuous definition of what constitutes a "sexual relationship" last fall (see "Sexual politics" on Clinton 10 front). It shows Lewinsky agreeing to lie to both her and Clinton, saying, "Telling the truth would get you in trouble. I don't know why you would want to do that." And it shows her alternately exasperated by being dumped by Clinton and worried she might suffer retribution from all friends around her. "I wouldn't cross these people for fear of my life," she tells Tripp.

Not a pretty picture—of any of the parties in the scandal that has paralyzed Clinton's presidency. And it doesn't get any better. Dick Morris, the President's chief political strategists, tells Starr's good guy the White House runs what he calls a "secret police" operation against women involved with Clinton. Selby Shambelan, a senior White House adviser, provides the most creative explanation for the Lewinsky connection. "It has to do with the grand jury," Shambelan says. "Hillary Clinton told him that her husband was being unfairly attacked for his ministry to a troubled person," something he does "out of religious

condition and personal temperament." And Lewinsky has phone conversations that Tripp recorded, quotes Clinton as saying, "I have an empty life except for my work, and it's a f---g obsession." Tripp responds: "He said that?" To which Lewinsky says, "Right." And then I said, "Well, isn't you get any warmth and do do do from your wife?" Tripp: "No do do." Lewinsky: "I did. He said, 'Of course I do.'"



Clinton, Lewinsky and she asked, 'Don't you get any warmth and do do do from your wife?'

All that would be nothing but low-grade titillation if the stakes were not so high. Starr contends that the report he sent to Congress on Sept. 8, along with last week's supporting evidence and tens of thousands of other pages that will remain sealed, proves there are 11 grounds for impeaching Clinton—including perjury, obstruction of justice and abuse of power. So Clinton's supporters and opponents are fighting trench warfare on the terrain of Starr's voluminous evidence. The White House last week pointed on what it said and the prosecutor has an attorney contradicting the accusation that Clinton lied to buy Lewinsky's silence. The President's men noted that both Bill Clinton, his secretary, and Vernon Jordan, his close friend, testified that they tried to help the former intern

lead to the impeachment of a president, and by Nov. 25. Without a date for wrapping up its work, and their leader, Michigan Democrat John Conyers, this proceeding could turn into a year-long—two years—political Bataan expedition.

The Democrats were sure to file a note on their proposed bill in the judiciary committee. But putting it forward will help them in their attempt to pass the impending impeachment inquiry or simply a partisan legislative attack on Clinton. That, in turn, will make it easier for the Democrats to maintain party discipline when the full House votes on whether to go ahead with an inquiry. That vote must be held by Friday, Oct. 9, when Congress is set to adjourn so that members can go home to campaign for midterm elections in Nov. 5. Only then will they find out for sure how American voters feel about the scandal they have heard much too much about. □

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STARVING OFF CHAOS

The US Congress voted to postpone until Oct. 15 a measure that could cause traffic gridlock at Canada-U.S. border points. The law requiring airport-style immigration checks for everyone entering the United States at land crossings, was due to go into effect on Sept. 30. The Senate later voted to repeal the controversial section, but the House has so far refused. Both chambers voted to postpone discussions.

MID EAST PROGRESS

Prospects for Middle East peace brightened after President Bill Clinton hosted a White House mini-summit with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Arafat later said he had accepted a plan for a long-delayed Israeli troop withdrawal from part of the West Bank and pledged to try to allay Israel's security concerns about Islamists from radical Palestinians. The three hoped to sign a new pact at a full summit in Washington in mid-October.

MECIAR BOWS OUT

Stevenson's authoritarian prime minister, Vladimir Mečiar, has he would step down after his ruling coalition fared poorly in national elections. Although his own party won the greatest share of votes—27 per cent—an opposition alliance was expected to form the next government when parliament convenes on Oct. 26.

SRI LANKA CARNAGE

Fire-fight battles between the military and separatist Tamil Tiger guerrillas in northern Sri Lanka left more than 2,000 fighters dead. The two sides were struggling for control of a key highway linking the main northern town of Jaffna with the south. Journalists were barred from the area and military sources kept full details from emerging.

NERI GAS CAROO

Israel confirmed a Dutch newspaper report that a Tel Aviv-bound El Al cargo plane was carrying a key component of nerve gas when it crashed into an Amsterdam apartment block in 1992, killing 23 people. A spokesman said the material was sarin gas and was to have been used to test filters that protect against chemical weapons. Dutch officials launched an investigation.



Calling Mahathir to step down; Anwar activists shout (right); protest

A bruising experience for Anwar Ibrahim

Asian Ibrahim's fall from grace has been swift and brutal, refugee from his appearance in a small, crowded courtroom in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur last week. The 58-year-old former deputy prime minister was fined Sept. 27 by his section's speaker, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, touch and go anti-government protests and a serious palace crisis in the Southeast Asian country that followed his ouster in Kuala Lumpur. Just 18 days later he appeared before a court on Sept. 29 as he indicated on new charges of corruption and sexual misconduct, including homosexual soliciting. His supporters, including his wife, say the allegations are baseless. Anwar, who has a black eye and bruises on his arms and torso, pleaded not guilty and accused the police of beating him. "I was blindfolded and handcuffed," he said. "I was beaten very hard on the right of my hand and they hit me on the left side



of my neck very hard. I was then dragged very hard left and right until blood came out from my nose and my legs cracked." He had to leave the 78-year-old prime minister who has ruled Malaysia for 17 years, began when the Asian economic crisis sent the country's economy into recession. Anwar, also 61, was removed and deposed after he exposed Mahathir's decision to award enormous contracts, including a meeting of Commonwealth nations in Kuala Lumpur, to Otaru, Canada's Paul Martin, his closest friend ever, several corruption cases. Martin also tried to reach him, just hours before he became prime minister, he said. "My thoughts and prayers are certainly with him."

Close call in Australia

Australian Prime Minister John Howard's narrow victory in elections in September that followed his promise of stability has been faulted by a centrist New Left, pegged at 10 per cent. The Labor opposition, which promised more modest tax cuts without "GMH," reduced Howard's conservative coalition in January from two dozen seats to less than 10 in the 124-member Australian House of

Representatives. With final results due next week, the ultra-nationalist, right-wing One Nation Party appears to be shut out. Party leader Pauline Hanson left her seat in suburban Brisbane and One Nation was projected to receive just eight per cent of the vote. Hanson's failed bid to prominence earlier this year when her promise to focus Asian immigration and reduce welfare payments to Aborigines helped her party gain nearly one-quarter of the vote in a state election.



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Storm warnings

BY MARY JANIGAN

The sheer scope of the financial calamity has become almost too large to grasp. In Russia, the Red Cross has launched an emergency appeal, warning that the nation faces mass starvation. In Brazil, the international Monetary Fund is cobbling together an emergency \$10-billion-dollar package of loans to shore up the nation's reserves—and to protect other imperiled South American markets. In the United States, private financial institutions are bailing out a rogue hedge fund. Long-Term Capital Management LP, which has lost billions of dollars in high-risk deals. And in Canada, investors are reeling at the news that the economy shrank for the fourth consecutive month, raising fears that Canada and the world are drifting into the worst financial crisis since 1929. "We are not immune from the global storm," Finance Minister Paul Martin insisted in an interview with *Maclean's* last week.

"But the underlying strength of the Canadian economy has improved dramatically. The economy of the United States continues to be strong. We don't have to panic."

Even so, jitters seemed to sweep across the globe last week. Stock markets plunged and the economic storm clouds spread as fast as that world leaders scrambled to co-ordinate their rescue operations—and to rehash the international organizations that are supposed to deliver the financial aid. The world's economic hopes now appear to be focused squarely on the Washington-based IMF, which has pumped more than \$10 billion into the economies of nations ranging from Indonesia to Russia to South Korea over the last 15 months in an effort to stave off a global recession. But, as representatives from its 180-member nations gather this week for the joint annual meeting of the boards of governors of the IMF and its sister organization, the World Bank, growing numbers of critics are insisting that the IMF has done little to control the financial meltdown—and may even have aggravated it.

To restore those institutions' battered credibility, both U.S. Pres-

IMF bailouts may be needed to head off global recession

ident Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair have called for a new global pact to re-create them. Still, the U.S. Congress has refused to approve \$10 billion in additional IMF funding. Meanwhile, Martin has compiled a six-point proposal to reform the world's financial system—reducing a coordinated interest rate cut by the central banks of the G-7 countries and a growth that would allow countries to use short-term currency controls to curb the flight of capital. "We have this enormously turbulent world of financial flows and crises and contagion—but the international arrangements are still based on the nation state," says Sylvia Ostry, distinguished research fellow at the University of Toronto's Centre for International Studies. "The articles are pointing so fast that the IMF can't really prevent a crisis or stamp it out."

The pressure on the IMF—and the strains on Canada—are mounting with each passing day. There is widespread

fear that if the upcoming Russian and package does not soothe investors' fears, the confusion will destabilize other South American economies, sending markets far U.S. exports—and thus damaging the economy of Canada's major customer. Last week, the U.S. Federal Reserve Board briefly lowered interest rates by a mere quarter of a percentage point in what was construed as a half-hearted attempt to keep the global economy expanding. The Bank of Canada promptly followed with its identical reduction, bringing the prime lending rate to 5.75 per cent. It was not enough to turn the tide. The Canadian dollar, which had been rebounding, reversed course, falling from 62.22 cents (U.S.) on Monday to close Fri-

day at 64.73 cents (U.S.). The loonie's plummet also reflected fears that the economy is still contracting after a 9.6 per cent fall in July.

The spectre of a global recession and falling corporate earnings triggered a worldwide sell-off of stocks. The Toronto Stock Exchange 300 corporate index ended its second quarter on record and up 30 per cent from its April high of 7,022.22. And the blue-chip Dow Jones industrial average is down about 27 per cent from its high of 9,357.90 that it set in July. "The global economy is slow and still," said Ted Cannis, head of research at JP Morgan Chase. "With sharp declines in the dollar and the stock market, consumers and businesses are going to cool their spending. Lower interest rates will be needed."

The fear of global crisis—and the demands need for a solution—are now palpable and power. Since Thailand

dominated our race in July, 1997,

investors have fled markets in Asia, Russia and Latin America, triggering runs on central banks, wiping out decades of hard-won prosperity and billions of workers' savings. The International Labor Organization estimates that the crisis in Asia alone could throw as many as 20 million people out of work by the end of this year. Another United Nations agency, UNCTAD, estimates that the Asian economy will cost \$486 billion in lost output this year. It adds that growing child malnutrition and declining school attendance mean that the crisis "will spill over into future generations."

Such statistics have ensured that every aspect of the IMF's conduct

Living on

the streets
in Indonesia
millions of
people in
poverty

BLUE-CHIP MELTDOWN

The winds of the financial hurricane battering world markets passed through to Canada again last week—battering two Canadian blue-chip companies. Novacor Credit Group Inc. and Northern Telecom Ltd., both heavyweights on the Toronto Stock Exchange, saw the price of their shares plunge as troubled investors turned concern over future earnings into a market rout. Fred Kitchens, managing director, equity trading at Scotia McLeod Inc., said he doubts their share would have fallen so sharply in a more stable environment. But initially, as their shares collapsed, both companies were holding meetings in the United States with investment analysts in an attempt to squelch

growing doubts over their future profitability. "A lot of fund managers have developed a nervous twitch," joked Kitchens. "If you want to have an analysis meeting, you had better not have it in the United States."

In New York City, executives with Novacor, one of the world's largest issuers of telecommunications equipment, were telling analysts that its revenues in the second half of this year would be lower than expected, but they insisted the company would meet its profit forecasts. Almost before they had finished talking, however, the battered fall hit and Novacor shares dropped 21 per cent over the next few days to a record low, recovering to \$46.00. Kevin Klassen, vice-president of estates for BPI Mutual Funds Inc. in Toronto, said that in addition to concerns about earnings, investors have been worried about whether Novacor can absorb Scriv. Corp., Calif.-based

NIKKI CARASIK

U.S. Federal Reserve Board chairman Alan Greenspan: a small cut, but more to come



is now the subject of serious debate. Last week, the global crisis—and the IMF's handling of the geo-political meetings of the 54 Commonwealth finance ministers in Ottawa and the G-7 finance ministers from Western industrial nations in Washington. While the Commonwealth ministers endorsed Martin's plan, his counterparts in the G-7 were more sceptical. Although Britain and the United States share Canada's view, the not clear if other European nations, especially Germany, which are sceptical of monetary union, will lower their interest rates in a concerted effort to spur growth. But Martin told Marais that it is critical that the IMF and the G-7 reach rapid agreement on Canada's approach, including lower rates.

"A lot of this is going to have to come to a head over the next couple of weeks," he said, adding that the IMF must resolve "in order to be part of the solution."

That evolution includes a change in its approach to global problems. In return for loans, the IMF has imposed a relatively inflexible prescription: higher interest rates to defend the currency—coupled with spending cuts and often higher taxes to produce a balanced budget. It has also insisted upon major reforms of the recipient's institutional system. In Indonesia, it even specified the price of gasoline. In South Korea, it liberalized foreign investment provisions and financial markets.

But these prescriptions paid scant attention to the fact that the economic problems of debtor nations are often deeply rooted in their society's structures—and the IMF cannot change those cultures overnight with simple decrees. Last July, the IMF negotiated a \$24.5-billion package for Brazil—well ahead of schedule. Instead, in August, even lower rates were gathered fast in previous months. Meanwhile, the \$7.4 billion expected within weeks—could strengthen suspicions that it had favored two private callers: University of Toronto law professor Robert Howe, who is teaching a course at the IMF at the University of Michigan, and Russia as the classic example of what the IMF does not understand. "If you don't have legal rules about who can tax whom, how can you collect money?" he asks. "Bureaucratic economists thought that you could have a functioning market economy without a lot of progress towards stable liberal democratic institutions. They were wrong. And everybody has paid a very high price for that error."

Other critics suggest that IMF intervention has actually hurt nations they set out to help. In Asia, government fiscal and monetary policies did not spark the current crisis in developed because local corporations and banks had borrowed excessive amounts of short-term capital from foreign institutions. When the confidence of those foreign banks wavered, they jacked up their interest rates

and dumped local currencies. To save their indebted nations, which were often run by their cronies, governments borrowed IMF funds to pay those debts and to defend their currencies. In return, the IMF demanded that they raise interest rates, cut social spending and overhaul their own institutional structures.

Such bitter medicine has been as unpredictable and so punishing to ordinary citizens that some nations are now taking drastic action to avoid IMF assistance. Last month, Malaysia imposed draconian currency controls, freezing its exchange rate—and reducing the ability to move money out of the country. Last week, hard-pressed Brazil chose a smaller, if milder, route—imposing short-term currency controls. Perhaps the worst charge against the IMF is that it has actually allowed international lenders to believe that they would be bailed out—as those lenders advanced massive amounts of money to banks and corporations that were poorly regulated, inadequately capitalized and often run by government cronies. An economist Adam McRae of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University told Marais's: "The IMF lends money to a country to help its lenders and it's kind of reading them like letters. There is room for the IMF as a leader of last resort. But if the IMF has supported policies that encourage countries to go on binges—and then get bailed out."

Such criticisms have swayed the IMF—and galvanized its members. The institution may endorse most aspects of Martin's six-point package—which represents a compromise between the needs of developed and developing countries. Under that plan, states would lower interest rates in an attempt to boost growth. The risk burden on developing nations would be out to sustainable levels.

Emerging nations would assume the role of balanced budgets. Martin also wants IMF member nations to review each other's financial sector supervision, including the state of each other's banks. Says a senior finance official: "We would be thrilled if the IMF endorsed a peer review mechanism to improve supervision." And to ensure that the private sector shares the risk and pain of crises, IMF members could agree to an emergency standstill clause, which Martin calls a "cooling-off period." This provision would allow a country to suspend all payments on foreign debts for 90 days.

In the end, major change will not happen overnight. Wendy Dobson, director of the University of Toronto's Institute for International Business, says that until significant changes in its structure are made, the IMF must keep bailing out countries after country. "We are at the mercy of all world's right now," she says. "We look to the IMF as the leader of last resort that we don't give it the funds to carry out that function. We have got to get to a world where its responsibilities and its funding are much clearer." This week's meeting may be the first small step along that road. □



Minister hugs his British counterpart, Gordon Brown, last week

YOU AND YOUR PHARMACIST:

A Relationship That Matters



PRESENTED BY THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN DRUG STORES

RESCUING THE WORLD ECONOMY

Money owed to the International Monetary Fund (in billions)

For the fiscal year ending April 30



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You and your pharmacist:

A relationship that matters

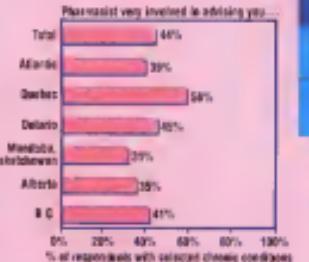
BY CAMILLA CORNELL

In response with the Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores

A recent Canadian Health Monitor survey found people who had been diagnosed with a serious chronic condition have involved their pharmacist in advising them on medications and health-care equipment. Four out of 10 respondents—who suffered from a range of ailments like high blood pressure, arthritis, rheumatism, heart trouble, asthma, lung disease, diabetes and cancer—said their pharmacist was “very involved.” The same number said they would welcome an even more involved pharmacist.

That still means that six out of 10 people, however, are not taking full advantage of a highly trained and very accountable health-care professional. With at least one year of university training and an additional three to four years of specialized study, pharmacists have a detailed knowl-

Four in 10 with selected chronic conditions report pharmacist “very involved”



Source: Canada Health Monitor

edge of the effect of drugs on the human body and the clinical use of drugs for disease prevention. What's more, they're as close as the neighborhood drugstore and you do not have to make an appointment to see them.

Given that they are generally healthy, it pays to develop a relationship with your pharmacist. The 276 pharmacists who responded to a 1996 Pharmacy Practice magazine survey reported getting an average of 87 drug-related calls per week, ranging from patients who did not take their medications properly to patients actually taking the wrong drug. And a more recent analysis of hospital data by two Canadian researchers found that adverse drug reactions are properly

administered drugs (including allergic reactions, side effects and drug interactions) may kill 10,000 Canadians a year.

A pharmacist who knows if you suffer from allergies and is aware of your health conditions can work with you if you are having problems with a particular medication, or provide a list of drugs against potentially lethal adverse drug reactions. As well, he or she can help you learn how to cope with chronic conditions that may at first seem overwhelming. With the restructuring of health care in Canada, it is time to go full between the cracks but developing a relationship with your pharmacist can help; it truly is a relationship that matters.

THE HIGH PRICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Have you ever started a course of antibiotics and then stopped halfway through because you already felt better? Or perhaps you swallowed a pill with dinner and then glanced at the bottle only to find that you should have taken it on an empty stomach? Have you missed a dose or two half-way through? If any of these scenarios ring a bell you have been guilty of what health-care professionals call non-compliance. Basically you have not followed the directions for taking your medication.

You are not alone. A 1996 study by Pharmacy Practice researchers found non-compliance was the most commonly reported drug-related problem for pharmacists, who dealt with the issue on average 27.5 times a week. But non-compliance is by no means a trivial matter. Failing to take medication as prescribed renders it less effective, enabling diseases or health conditions to gain a foothold once again. In the case of antibiotics, it can lead to the development of “super-bugs” and hard-to-defeat infections.

Indeed, the cost to the health-care system of drugs being taken or prescribed inappropriately is conservatively estimated at \$7 to \$9 billion a year, according to the University of Toronto's Centre for Health Promotion. Even more chilling, an estimated 10,000 deaths a year can be attributed to patients failing to follow through on a course of medication or taking it incorrectly. “Non-compliance is probably one of the biggest challenges any pharmacist faces,” says Todd Reid, a pharmacist with Canada Safety in Calgary. “It's tough for a medication to work if you're not taking it.”

Most people, of course, do not set out to be non-compliant. An elderly patient may be confused and have trouble keeping track of a number of different medications to be taken at different times. Others stop taking medicine once they are feeling a bit better, or give it up because of unpleasant side effects.

Reid tries to ensure his patients comply with their doctors' orders by initially stressing just how important it is to take medications as prescribed. “You tell patients what it does and what are the implications of not taking it,” he says. “You can't assume they've discussed all that with their doctor.” Reid also tries to come up with a schedule for taking the drug that fits into the patients' daily routines to help them remember. “I find it helpful to give them a specific time to take the medication rather than just saying, 'Take

use three times a day," he explains.

Neither does Read let his patients off the hook when they come in for a refill. Before he hands over the medicine, he asks, "Does this look familiar?" His point is to force people to actually look at the medicine and acknowledge that it is the right one. Then, instead of asking whether they are taking it three times a day, he asks, "How are you taking it?" That way, he says, "they have to think about it and dredge from their memory, 'Well I'm taking it at this time, the time and this time.' In probably 10 to 15 per cent of the prescriptions we refill I make some sort of change to the regimen to make it easier for patients to remember."

Other initiatives underway at pharmacies across the country include follow-up phone calls to patients who have missed picking up a refill and so-called trial prescription programs that measure medication use more closely. Most pharmacists also will use a range of devices intended to make it easier for patients to follow a medication plan. Says Read: "We can't be there to babysit people, but we do everything we possibly can to make sure they're following some sort of regimen."

PRESCRIPTIONS ON TRIAL

Trial prescription programs are an increasingly popular way to try to ensure that people are getting the maximum benefit from their drug therapy and to cut down on drug wastage. The pharmaceutical industry's averse to a 10-day supply of medication rather than the more common 30-day or three-month supply. When the trial prescription is nearly finished, the pharmacist calls the patient to find whether he or she is experiencing side effects and whether the drug therapy is working as it should. If all is well, the pharmacist dispenses the remainder of the medication.

That call-back has a dual purpose, according to Fred Smith, president of London, Ont.-based firm Solutions in Health Inc. First, he says, many people go off their medications in the first week or so. "Cardiovascular medications are a good example," he explains. "A patient may go to the doctor feeling fine, but the doctor tells them they have a problem with cholesterol or high blood pressure and they get put on some form of medication." Due to the side effects, they may well feel worse, at least for the first little while. Their response: "They may just stick that medication up in the medicine cabinet and forget about it," says Smith. "That's why we have nursing homes full of people who have stopped out."

But Smith says that if patients take the trial, those side effects will often improve or even disappear. "The call-back on a trial prescription program is really an encouragement to get people to stay on the medication, to let them, these strange feelings will go away, just stick with it," he says. Alternatively, says Ruth Molson, manager



Over-the-counter entrepreneur Fred Smith tells his pharmacist about any health issues.

care coordinator for the Ontario Pharmacists Association, the pharmacist may recommend you talk to your doctor and try to find a medication that agrees with you better.

"Sometimes it's just a matter of switching one beta-blocker for another that works better," she says. At the very least, if you choose not to continue with the therapy, at least you are not wasting \$30 worth.

Currently four provinces in Canada have trial prescription programs for provincial drug plan beneficiaries: British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Quebec and Nova Scotia. Several other provinces have launched programs on a more limited basis. The result—better patient care, reduced drug wastage and money savings. For example:

■ In Saskatchewan, the 3,700 trial prescriptions filled for 1995 resulted in savings of \$33,000. Although pharmacists receive no additional reimbursement fee for the extra work required to monitor the trial prescriptions, every dollar spent generated \$2.50 in savings. Fully 1,140 patients chose not to fill the remaining portion of their prescription, cutting down on the amount of unused drugs.

■ In British Columbia, 5,082 trial prescriptions were filled for 1995, of which 2,141 were never completed at an estimated savings of \$22,000.

■ In Quebec, 4,784 trial prescriptions were filled, and about 33 per cent of patients chose not to fill the remainder of the prescriptions.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMS CAN HELP

At the Brampton Pharme Plus where Anna Posca works, a computer program identifies patients who have not come in for refills of necessary medication. "We call those people 'every week,'" says Posca. "And the first thing we ask is, 'Are you still on the medication?'" Anna Posca gushes about how that sends shivers up her spine. "People will say, 'they cost so much money, I can't take them, or I was feeling better so I stopped taking my medicine,'" she says.

Her response is to point out that their health is very important, and the doctor would not have prescribed medication unless it was necessary. "All kinds of problems can arise from patients not taking their medication correctly," says Posca. "If people don't take their prescribed medication, for example their blood pressure can skyrocket and they could end up having a heart attack or a stroke." For people who simply cannot afford to pay up their medications at that time, she suggests putting the purchase on credit card, or a charge account set up for patients. Many people do come in and fill the prescription after a call from Posca, and she admits that it gives her a feeling of great satisfaction. Her advice: "Take medication exactly as your doctor prescribes it, and don't stop until it's finished. If you're having bothersome side effects, call your physician or talk to a pharmacist. Don't just stop taking it."

But Smith says that if patients take the trial, those side effects will often improve or even disappear. "The call-back on a trial prescription program is really an encouragement to get people to stay on the medication, to let them, these strange feelings will go away, just stick with it," he says. Alternatively, says Ruth Molson, manager

Since 1961, Zellers has been committed to operating in-store pharmacies. Today, with more than 37 years of pharmacy service under its belt, Zellers continues to search out new ways to prove its commitment to excellence in the profession.

"There are numerous reasons for us to continue to come into a Zellers store—and pharmacy is a value-added reason," says Bob Smith, Director of Pharmacy. "As part of our corporate philosophy, our pharmacists are committed to giving the best possible patient care, being available at a value-added price."

Zellers currently has 230 pharmacies in Canada, of which 199 are owned corporately and the remaining 81 are leased to individual pharmacists. The acquisition of Kistler has resulted in strong growth over the past year, and plans for further growth are in the works—in addition to the conversion of Smart Pharmacies, 10 new pharmacies are scheduled to open before year end, for a grand total of 240 Zellers pharmacies across Canada.



Good Health Centre

Healthy Living Guide for Seniors, which is a practical, passable booklet full of health and medication guidelines; it also features a section for recording medications and health concerns. The First Aid Safety Guide is also available for all patients—it's a unique flip card booklet that attaches with a magnet to the fridge for quick and ready reference on a wide range of emergency situations. Both guides are distributed free of charge.

The Good Health Centres are strategically located near the dispensary so pharmacists can use these tools to assist in their counseling of patients.

"Good Health" Thrives for Zellers



The cornerstone of a Zellers' pharmacy is the Good Health Program. This program, launched in 1990, promotes healthy living through in-store displays, which can be either national or store-specific to address local products or health issues.

A Zellers pharmacy conducts a Good Health Clinic Day at least once every two years. The event addresses one or a number of topics including: allergies, asthma, cholesterol, diabetes and heart health, and, new for 1996, a clinic focusing on checking the contents of your medicine cabinet. This latest clinic allows customers to bring in medications to discuss possible drug interactions and side effects, as well as check expiry dates.

Registered nurses from the Western Order of Nurses help manage the clinics and work with pharmacists to counsel

patients, answer questions and conduct clinical testing where appropriate. Patient education material, summarizing key points made during the clinic discussions, are distributed to attendees.

Pharmacists are particularly pleased to have the opportunity to improve patient outcome in the long term, thanks to their patients' attendance on a clinic day.

Along with regularly scheduled clinic days, the Good Health program is accessible to customers every day of the year through in-store stand alone units—Good Health Centres—displaying a arrangement of information displays on 24 day care issues, including: alic, heartburn, high blood pressure, smoking cessation, asthma, menopause, breast cancer, hypertension, arthritis, diabetes and prostate cancer. Videos are also available for patients to borrow free of charge.

Other program components include a



EYES ON THE HORIZON

In light of the economic realities of health care today, Zellers pharmacy puts patients first. In Ontario, for example, Zellers waives the government's 80 per cent level on provincial drug benefit plan recipients. There are self-service blood pressure machines in all stores, and Zellers also offers free delivery to all locations.

A key to Zellers' continued success in pharmacy is its cohesiveness as a corporate entity that's backed by senior management. It already ranks among the top 10 pharmacy banners in Canada, and its aggressive expansion plans will make Zellers' pharmacy more convenient than ever for consumers to visit.

ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS CAN BE LETHAL

Prescription drugs have proven their benefit to society again and again. Before starting and Best's directory of insulin, all children with juvenile-onset diabetes lived into adolescence and died. And new medicines to treat coronary heart disease have saved an estimated 660,000 lives, according to the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada.

But medications are not without their risks. After conducting an analysis of hospital data, University of Toronto researchers Bruce Pomeranz and Jason Lauzon estimated that adverse reactions to properly administered drugs kill an average of 10,000 people annually in the U.S. and, extrapolating from that, more than 10,000 in Canada, making them the fourth leading cause of

death, after heart disease, cancer and stroke. Pomeranz and Lauzon's figures take in allergic reactions to drugs, side effects and drug interactions which result from mixing together two medications that may well be helpful on their own. To ensure you are not one of the statistics, advises Paul Head, a pharmacist with Canada Safeway in Calgary: ask your pharmacist if your new medication has any common side effects—perhaps nausea, upset stomach, dizziness, headaches or drowsiness. And make sure you know the signs of potentially dangerous side effects for the medication you are taking. As a rule of thumb, if you are getting chest pains or leg pains, having difficulty breathing, faintness, rapidly beating heart or excessive sneezing, vomiting

or diarrhea, call your doctor immediately.

As for drug interactions, according to Dr. Robyn Tamblyn, professor of epidemiology at McGill University in Montreal, scientists have documented fully 23,000—ranging from limited absorption of one of the drugs, prolonging illness or requiring treatment, to increasing the toxicity of the medications to a potentially lethal level. And if there are side effects, group particularly at risk according to Statistics Canada, it is seniors. Why?

Because they are the heaviest users of prescription drugs. A recent report by Statistics Canada's Health Statistics Division indicated that, in the two days prior to the study, a full 10 per cent of Canadians aged 65 to 74 and 13 per cent of those aged 75 or older had taken five or more drugs. The report estimated that 10 to 30 per cent of elderly patients are admitted to hospital because of medication toxicity.

And it is not only prescription drugs which interact with other prescription drugs. Interactions can occur with over-the-counter drugs, herbal products and even foods. With as many possible complications, what can you do to ensure you are not the victim of a dangerous drug interaction? First, advises Bill Connell, a pharmacist with Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre's Drug Information Service, let your doctor and your pharmacist ahead of any changes in your health. Let them know what other medications you are taking and whether you have allergies or medical conditions. As well, it is important to build a relationship with your pharmacist. Most pharmacies use sophisticated computer systems to track your medication history, allowing them to pinpoint potential drug interactions immediately. But the information often is not shared between drugstores (except sometimes within chain); so if you are frequenting several different pharmacies, a potential interaction may go undetected.

Finally, if you have a health condition

like diabetes, epilepsy, asthma or high blood pressure for which you are taking medication, or if you are allergic to a specific type of medication, wear a medical I.D. bracelet or necklace. You might also write up a medication record if you regularly take a number of different drugs. Include the name, dosage and any special instructions for taking each

medication, as well as the name and phone number of the doctor who prescribed it. Keep a copy in your wallet or purse and at home. What you should never do, is simply go off your medication for fear of an interaction. "Certainly the benefits of drugs are tremendous," says Lauzon, "and they outweigh the risks in most cases."

SOME FOOD AND DRUGS DON'T MIX

Few people would think about grapefruit juice as a potentially lethal substance. Yet, taken with certain medications, it can lead to irregular heartbeat or serious kidney problems. Similarly, milk—as useful for building strong bones and teeth—can reduce absorption of the antibiotic tetracycline. "There are some foods and drugs that just don't mix," says Carole McLean, director of pharmacy sciences for Medical Pharmacies Ltd.

Sometimes McLean explains, the wrong food can simply interfere with a drug's effectiveness, as in the case of the tetracycline/milk combination. "The tetracycline binds with the calcium, changing its form and making it more difficult for the body to absorb the antibiotic," she says.

But the more dangerous situations occur when a food interacts with a medication to boost its potency beyond what is safe. Orange juice, for example, contains flavonoids which can push the power of some heart medications into toxic territory. It can also prevent your body from metabolizing antibiotics like Norfloxacin®, causing irregular heartbeat. Other examples of food-drug combinations that may give you more than you bargained for are:

Don't Mix With or else...

Antacids like Doug® (Gaviscon®) and Maalox® and cold suppressants like Delsym® and Tussin®

With

The antibiotic tetracycline

or else...

You run the risk of reducing absorbability of the antibiotic by up to 50 per cent.



Antihistamines like Benadryl® and the anticholinergic cyclizine

With

The antibiotic amoxicillin contained in Septra® or trimethoprim/sulphamethoxazole in Bactrim®

or else...

You're more likely to break down the antibiotics, potentially causing irregular heartbeat and heart palpitations.

Aspirin, contained in Advil® and Motrin®; ASA, contained in Aleve®

With

Warfarin (Coumadin®)

or else...

Breaks the blood-clotting effect, risking an increased risk of bleeding.**

Protein-kinase inhibitors used to treat AIDS such as ritonavir (Norvir®)

With

Disulfiram (Antabuse®) and some other tranquilizers

or else...

The effect of the disulfiram could be dramatically increased, making you extremely drowsy.

Antacids like Delsym® (Gaviscon®) and Maalox®

With

The antibiotic ciprofloxacin (Cipro®) used for urinary tract infections

or else...

Abuse of the antacids will dramatically reduce the effectiveness of the antibiotic.

**Note: In some cases physicians deliberately prescribe the two together, when the benefits outweigh the risks.

Don't Mix With or else...

Antacids like phenolphthalein, sulfite or the Potassium's molasses sweetener

With

Food containing tannins including tea, coffee, certain and home-made yogurt, even smoked or pickled fish, salami, sausages or progresso's Italian meatball soup, anchovies, olives, soy sauce and chocolate as well as berries like cranberries, apples and pear.

It can cause a rapid rise in blood pressure potentially leading to a stroke.

Amidostatin sodium (Novum®) in metoclopramide drug

With

Any food bearing or meat-eaten

Amidostatin of the drug will be absorbed into the body.

Linezolid and clofazimine (Zimelide®) used to treat Hansen's Disease

With

A high-protein diet, including plenty of protein, cheese and beans, for example.

The anti-coagulant effect of the elements of protein may compete with the antibiotic, reducing absorption.

The bland-thinner variant (Couscous®)

With

Green tea and other foods rich in tannins like broccoli and other green leafy vegetables.

The anti-coagulant effect of the drug may be decreased potentially leading to a stroke.

OUT WITH THE OLD...

Last summer, seven teens from St. Thomas, Ont., latched themselves in hospital hope an overdose of prescription pills, beer and vodka. One was unconscious when he was brought in and another went missing for a day and a half before he was finally found, still disoriented and wandering in a nearby ravine. Such pill parties are common, users told a reporter after the incident, fueled by raids on the family medicine cabinet.



Toxic Avenger: Big V Pharmacies were instrumental in dispensing of lots of unused drugs.

Most people have one or two bottles in the medicine cabinet with expiry dates that are months, if not years, overdue. What you may not realize is the risk to both people and the environment of those walls of unused treatments. According to Dr. Michael McGuigan, medical director of Toronto's Poison Control, about one child (up to age 10) a week turns up at the city's Hospital for Sick Children due to accidental poisonings. "If you've got old medications lying around, you've set the scenario," he says. "You've got the child, who's curious and looking around. You've got a potential source of town available. And a lot of the young ones can't tell the difference between medications and candy."

What is worse, points out Dan Brown, a pharmacist with Shoppers Drug Mart in Barrie, having unused medication unused increases the risk that even adults will take the wrong drug, potentially causing a dangerous drug reaction. "People wake up in the middle of the night, they're groggy, and they grab the wrong thing," he points out. "We always say if you're not using something anymore, it's best to discard it."

Taking expired drugs can be risky as well. Although it is uncommon, expired prescrip-



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DISEASE STATE MANAGEMENT

son drugs have actually caused seizures and even death. For the most part though, says pharmacist Fred Smith, president of Solutions in Health Inc., both prescription and non-prescription drugs simply become less potent as they age. So if you are taking an expired prescription for antibiotics, for example, it's like not finishing out a full treatment course; you may contribute to the problem of antibiotic-resistant bugs and you could end up with a super-infection which is very difficult to clear up.

Smith suggests tossing drugs that have passed their expiry date or that you no longer use, as well as those which are crumbling, have developed an odor, or simply do not look right. Do not drop them in the garbage, though, or flush them down the sink or toilet. Drugs are regarded as hazardous waste products, points out Deanne Laroche, supervisor of Household Hazardous Waste, for Toronto. "If residents don't dispose of medication properly, it can attract animals, who will eat it and potentially get very ill."

Most cities have a place where residents can drop off unused medications, last year, Toronto's lone disposal site received 4,640 kgs. In Alberta, which has been operating a drug round-up since 1985, fully 230 tons have been collected, equivalent to the weight of more than 80 grown elephants. In total, 276 tons were turned in, compared to 192 tons in 1987. The most common antibiotics, pain killers and heart medications.

Smith who also runs a medicine cabinet clean-up program at Big V pharmacies in Southwestern Ontario, actually tried to put a price on the amount of unused medication he collected and came up with an average of \$10,000 worth of medications a month from each of the chain's stores. "If there are about 65,000 stores in Canada, that's about \$780 million worth of drugs a year that people are throwing away," he says. "And that's just the people that actually bring their drugs in. There are others who never do."

In order to dispose of unused medications legally, they must be treated as toxic waste, points out Smith. "He used to send 48-drum loads of solid dosage drugs away for destruction," he explains. "The company we hired trucked it to a plant where they made a sludge out of it and then buried it in the ground in drums." If you can't make it to your local disposal site, most pharmacists will accept and dispose of unwanted drug products year-round.

JUST A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR...

Telling an adult what they want to follow through on a course of medication is one thing, but how do you get a reluctant young child to take the medicine he or she needs to get better? According to John Toe, a pharmacist with London Drugs in Rossland, B.C., most pharmacists have a bag of tricks up their sleeves that can help any parent cope. Here are some of his suggestions to help the medicine go down:

Booster tip: Check up a tablet or pour a medicine syrup on ice cream or mix it with yogurt and other foods. That will make sure whatever you are making it with is not going to interfere with its therapeutic effects. For example, some medicine should not be taken with milk and other dairy products, as should be taken on an empty stomach.

Use a Dose-paring Device: There are a range of products available to make giving children their medicine a little easier. A simple one would include "sugarplum" tablets which allow you to press the proper dose of medicine into a hollow formule, then just cut it to let the medicine dissolve onto the spoon, a sponge-type dropper that enables you to squirt medicine into a child's mouth, and the latest: a baby bottle, with a built-in medicine dispenser.

Over the counter: When children feel as control of what goes into their mouths, they are more likely to comply. This means "If you want the tylenol liquid in the medicine cabinet?"



Jean Penney, Morden Woman, The Zellers pharmacist drives tailored action plans to help patients manage specific health conditions.

to get them interested, and then I refer them to a place where they can get even more information," she says. "If I can get them to say, 'You're kidding, I didn't know that I knew I've got them.'

Penney sometimes writes out patient action plans for asthma sufferers for example, so that they know what to do when faced with a particular scenario. The plan helps some people "internalize" how to ignore the disease. "Parents are sometimes hamstrung to find out that their child has asthma," Penney explains. "They figure if they don't give the child the medication, then the child won't have the condition, so they won't use the child in the face to start them or their inhalers. We have more and better treatments for asthma now than we ever did and yet we have more asthmatics dying."

Penney also encourages her patients to start thinking about potential "triggers" for their condition. Some migraine sufferers find red wine brings on the debilitating headaches, while for others it might be dairy products. And asthma may react to grasses, mould or pets. "If they're aware of what makes their disease state worse, they can be ready to respond," she says.

Many pharmacies offer special clinic days where patients can come to find out more about high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes, migraines, caring for infants, among other topics. People may have their blood pressure or cholesterol levels checked, or their blood glucose levels monitored. Often separate consultation rooms are set aside so patients can discuss their concerns in private.

AS AN INDEPENDENT PHARMACIST, MY CUSTOMERS LIKE TO ASK ALL KINDS OF HEALTH CARE QUESTIONS. MORLEY MOORE LIKES TO ASK ME JUST AS I'M LINING UP A PUTT.



I'm an independent pharmacist at the local, IGA drugstore. So when my customers need a prescription filled or answers to health related questions, I'm the one they talk to.

But these people are more than just my customers; they are my neighbors. And because I live in the community they are also my friends. That's why my good friend and customer, Morley Moore, can pick by name to talk to me about his health. Even if it's just to throw me off my game.

(DANG!)



MY CUSTOMERS KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME. HARD AT WORK. AS USUAL!

ALWAYS LIVED HERE. ALWAYS WILL.

MY BUSINESS.



H&A of Guardian Drugs

R-Central

GM

BACK IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

When Jerry Young's doctor told him he was a "borderline diabetic" eight years ago, he thought nothing of it. "I had no real illnesses, my vision was the same." The doctor gave me some pills to take twice a day and I figured, "well, do the odds," he says. An admitted "fast food freak," Young continued to feast on the high-fat, bad fat level and eschewed exercise. At six feet tall, he weighed in at a



Source: Test: Pharmacist Ken Burns, Englewood shows a borderline diabetic. His glucose levels are on the rise, computer.

hefty 360 pounds and his blood sugar was consistently high.

It was not until Young started to get severe cramping in his legs after walking that he began to realize that the lifestyle he led was taking a toll on his health. Last October, he agreed to participate in a study run by Re-

ASK YOUR PHARMACIST...

- Why am I taking this medication?
- How should I take it? Is it better after a meal, on the马上, or at night?
- Should I avoid certain foods or alcohol while taking the product?
- Is there any possibility the medication will react with another product I'm taking? (Over-the-counter, over-the-counter, or herbal.)
- Is it safe to drive a vehicle or operate hazardous machinery while taking this medication?
- For those who are pregnant, what is this, what are they and how safe? If you know if the side effects are dangerous?
- How will I know if this medication is working?
- Are there any side effects to this medication? If so, what are the pros and cons?
- Do you have patient information available on my medical condition?

Burns, a pharmacist with Englewood IGA, in Englewood, Colo. "The genesis for the study was that we'd get people coming into the pharmacy to buy testing strips and we'd ask what their blood sugar levels were. They'd say 14 [which is very high]. When we asked what they were doing to bring their glucose levels back under control, though they'd reply, 'Nothing.'

Burns figured that if these people could see a graph of their glucose levels over time, exactly what they meant in terms of an

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*If you've heard
herbals aren't real medication,
perhaps you should consider
the source.*

The fact is, many of the drugs you may already take originated from plants and herbs. Which means herbal medicine should be treated with respect.

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Pharmacist would have to agree.
Our pharmacists are trained on an

ongoing basis so they can answer questions about all medication that affects your health, including herbals. If you have questions about herbal medicine, get the information from someone you already trust - your HEALTHWATCH Pharmacist.



sugar level and how many times he was under.

What they showed was that Young—whose blood sugar levels averaged about 12 fast-fasting considerably—was unlikely to reach age 60 without major complications unless he changed his ways. “I guess seeing it on paper helped,” says Young. “I couldn’t ignore it any longer. And I guess I had to realize that a pill wasn’t going to take it away if had to do it.”

Young also learned to Young that the pills he was taking for his diabetes were not going to do any good unless he took them previous to eating, something he had not known. Young asked his doctor to make an appointment with a diabetes education team, including a diettitian who would be able to give him useful advice on which foods to eat and which to avoid. “I never went on a diet,” he says. “I just began to pay attention to the foods I was eating and how they affected my body.” As well, he began a regimen of regular walking after work.

Now months later, Young’s blood sugar level averages five or six, which is normal even for a non-diabetic, and there are no major fluctuations. He has dropped almost 100 pounds, and Young proudly refers to him as “my diabetes power boy.” Young says he has every intention of keeping to his good habits. Says Young, “I have five years to work until I’m eligible for a pension and I’m thinking, I want to see that pension. I want to enjoy the life my wife and I can have later on.”

BREATHING EASIER

Tony Matthew McMurry went into respiratory distress when he was born, and continued to have breathing problems even as a baby. At just five months old, he was diagnosed with asthma after several incidents in which he turned blue, foaming at the mouth and lost in consciousness. Testimony



STORE MEDICINE SAFELY

Matthew McMurry’s mom, Debbie, says it’s important to store medicine in a cool, dry place. She says many medicines need cooler than room-temperature storage if they’re stored and handled properly. A common example is Acetaminophen, which is very sensitive to moisture. “You break it open and the bottles of acetaminophen will melt,” she says. “It’s important to store medicine in a cool, dry place.”

■ **Key medicine in a cool, dry place.** The most common medicine out there actually includes a dry-aging because of the moisture and heat in your kitchen. Testimony

Phone a local asthma specialist to see if medicine is stored well in medicine cabinet and bags.

■ **Never leave medicine in the car.** Car medicine is stored in a cool, dry place. It’s not a good idea to leave it in the sun or in the car.

■ **Never leave medicine in the car.** Car medicine is stored in a cool, dry place. It’s not a good idea to leave it in the sun or in the car.

TECHNOLOGY: SHARING YOUR PERSONAL HEALTH INFORMATION COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE

Donna Pipe, until recently a pharmacist with Children’s Hospital in Calgary, regularly adjusted small patients’ medications according to information gleaned from their medical charts, consultations with their doctors, lab reports and their medical and nursing plans.

In fact, Pipe admits she would not have been able to do her job half as well if she did not have access to such data. The lab reports, for example, tell her if levels of the antibiotic Gastroxin are too high—potentially damaging auditory or kidney function—or too low—in which case it is not going to work its healing magic. As well, she can tell if the child is at risk of a allergic or adverse drug reaction from his medical history and she might be able to adjust the timing of his medications to allow him to get a good night’s sleep or

going through for more Ventolin® (an emergency inhaler which opens up the airways during an asthma attack) than Releveon® (a second inhaler meant to be used on a regular basis to prevent asthma attacks). Sweet pointed out that the situation should be reversed if “Ventolin® is only meant for use during an asthma attack,” she says. When used regularly, it can cause tachycardia, hypertension, hypotension, sleeplessness and even heart palpitations. Releveon® on the other hand, should be used two to four times a day and although the patient does not feel any immediate effects, it quietly keeps asthma under control.

Catherine was assured, she did not remember the doctor telling them that. “You gave us a video and brochures and pamphlets on asthma,” she says. “She didn’t even change us for there, although you’re supposed to rent the videos.” As well, Sweet provided the McMurrys with an asthma management plan detailing exactly how and when to use the inhalers. Instead of using the Releveon® “every time Matthew wheezes,” as they had been doing, Sweet suggested the McMurrys use the Releveon® four times daily until his symptoms were under control and then cut back slowly to twice a day within a few months time. “I made it to that goal within a month,” says Catherine. Now, the McMurrys notice that Matthew is far calmer and healthier. “He hasn’t had an attack in months,” says Catherine gratefully. “If it wasn’t for Kim, he would still be doing what we were doing, and that’s dangerous.”

As for Sweet, she admits it is very rewarding to have been able to intervene in such an immediate way. “We caught it before Matthew started school, so he’s not going to have to carry puffers everywhere he goes. It’s nice to see the whole family a little more relaxed,” she says.

be less crowded in the day.

This is all information that is not available to community pharmacists. And, with patients being released much sooner from hospitals across the country, many are beginning to wonder if it would not help to have it. “Pharmacists typically would be able to figure out with less source certainty what condition a patient has from the drug profile on their computer screen,” says Bob Nakagawa, director of Pharmacy Broad-Columbia’s pharmaceutical drug program. “But they can’t know definitely because many drugs have more than one use. For instance they could be getting a beta-blocker for a heart condition or for a migraine headache.” A patient with a migraine, he points out, is going to be counselled quite differently than one with a heart condition.

Nakagawa would like to see community pharmacists given access to a kind of “electronic chart” on patients with diagnostic information and other pertinent data. That kind of detailed information, however, is still a dream. Two provinces—British Columbia and Manitoba—have taken the first step by implementing on-line linkages from each of their pharmacists to a central computer system which stores patient information. What that means is that wherever you are, your pharmacist has access to your medication history. Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan are in varying stages of implementing similar systems.

As well, British Columbia has launched a pilot project in a number of emergency departments giving doctors and nurses access to the same information. What that means is that a shift doctor can pull up a patient’s medication profile and other pertinent information, including adverse reactions and allergies to certain drugs. “When you come

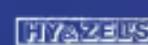
into an emergency room, you may or may not be able to provide that information directly,” says Nakagawa. “You may have just been in a car accident and you may be unconscious. And especially elderly patients may not remember the long list of drugs they’re taking with all those complicated names.”

When the “charts are worked out” of this new system, it will be rolled out to emergency departments across the province. “The key thing is to make sure that the information is confidential and is not available to people who do not need to know,” says Nakagawa.

He points out, however, that information only flows one way right now, in that it is in the hospital. Debbie Saltarache, pharmacy systems manager for Wal-Mart and director of the CACDS’s financing pharmacy systems committee, would like to see a two-way sharing of information. “We already have sharing of information in the hospital setting. I would like to see that extended into community pharmacy so that we have one standard of care no matter whether the patient is in hospital or at home.”

Like Nakagawa, she thinks it would be particularly reliable for pharmacists to have diagnostic information. “You may well ask, why wouldn’t the pharmacist simply ask the patient why he’s being treated?” she says. “But in some cases, the patient may be confused and uncertain as to what the diagnosis really is, especially if he or she has had a number of tests.” As well, a pharmacist may not want to question his patient in front of the rest of the pharmacy about what is making them ill. “The pharmacy has been identified as a key point of contact with the patient,” says Saltarache. “If the pharmacist knows the diagnosis she’s able to give a lot more pertinent information.” ■

CACDS — Leading the Change for the Chain Drug Industry



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN DRUG STORES



ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES CHAÎNES DE PHARMACIENS



Sweet Relief: Pharmacist Kim Sweet coaches a young patient on how to control asthma attacks.

Matthew did not want to go outside for fear of having an attack. The McMurrys got a bassinet, however, when they moved to their new home in the Rockies Lake area two years ago and began to frequent the nearby Lethbridge Drugs. On one such visit to fill a prescription for Matthew, pharmacist Kim Sweet picked up on the fact that the child had been

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BUSINESS

Battling the mob

An unlikely group tackles a Russian gangster

Sergei Magilevitch is one of the world's most powerful mobsters. According to police reports, the notorious "Billing Devil" of Russia's Red Mafia holds a multimillion-dollar criminal organization five times the size of the largest U.S. crime syndicate. He controls, among other things, the Hungarian armaments business and the flow of goods through Moscow's Sheremetevsky International Airport. Most of the world's biggest law enforcement agencies are his targets, including Interpol, the FBI and the RCMP. He seems invincible—until a couple of weeks ago, when an unlikely group of Canadians became the first in the world to make a dent in Magilevitch's sprawling business empire.

The people who did this are the crew of Ontario's pension fund investors. A solid and respectable consortium that includes Vancouver-based Canaccor Clark & Iann Investment Management Ltd., the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board and Royal Bank Investment Management Inc. Together they hold about a 50-per-cent share in a barely high-flying Toronto Stock Exchange-listed company called YIMM Magnes International Inc., which last March had a market capitalization of almost \$1 billion and was included in the blue-chip TSX 300 Index. Frustrated by prolonged trading ban that have frozen YIMM shares and affected by allegations that YIMM was a front for laundering Magilevitch's tainted money,

the pension managers staged a corporate coup d'état. It worked: on Sept. 22, the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench allowed them to take control of the company.

For almost two years, YIMM was a market darling, quadrupling from its original price to trade for more than \$20 a share at last March's peak. Investors say that whatever's behind YIMM's woes, the stock's promise—"This was no joke," says former Ontario pension fund director David Peterson, who served on the YIMM board from 1996 until August of this year.

The company, which Magilevitch and his associates founded in the early 1990s, makes state-of-the-art magnets for the automobile and aerospace industries at plants in Hungary, the United States and Britain. YIMM also made money: \$112 million in profit on sales of \$64 million for the first nine months of 1997, says Peterson. "This was a very hot, very interesting very sure

thing," he says. "But then came the Russian financial crisis, and the market just went crazy. It's been a roller coaster ever since." The pension managers' intervention may never pay off. "I don't think there's any guarantee that a healthy YIMM's Canadian investors may never get their money back—though their actions could benefit others," says the TSB, for example, in asking Standard & Poor's Corp. of New York City to help design new rules for screening the firms it includes in major indexes, to protect investors from future losses. Meanwhile, YIMM shareholders are stuck, buried deep in selling their shares until they can show regulators proof that they've sorted out the company's many affairs. Investors predict it will take six months to a year before they are anywhere close. Ultimately, Magilevitch (who still owns about three per cent of YIMM) may be the only one to know the truth, and he is not about to start disseminating information to fellow shareholders.



Peterson on YIMM

YIMM Magnes plants a market during that fall from grace

a warrant, and they left with every piece of paper in the place," Peterson says. "But the search warrant is sealed, no charges have been laid and to this date nobody has provided management with any specific allegation."

Nonetheless, Peterson felt that YIMM should err on the side of caution. With Mitchell, he spent the summer stringing fellow directors to sever anything that suggested ties to Magilevitch, who lives in Budapest and is banned from entering both Britain and the United States. Peterson and Mitchell were outraged when management proceeded with plans to buy a Russian magnet factory they thought to be unconnected. "It was nuts. It was an uncommunicable," Peterson told *Maclean's* last week. "But we couldn't persuade the board to back off."

YIMM's auditors had already quit, saying they could not sign the company's fiscal year-end 1997 financial statements. On Aug. 30, Peterson resigned; within days YIMM's corporate law firm and special counsel, Joseph Grossi of Toronto, followed suit. The two agreements contained in press about a controversial expenditure. In July and August combined, another \$20 million was spent entirely missing. YIMM says it can account for the cash, but Canadian pension fund managers denied they were tired of explanations. They had no goals, control or risk watching their investment, worth more than \$200 million when YIMM's stock trading was halted at the time of the FBI raid, down

The pension managers' coup may be an international precedent, but it is also a lesson: that a hollow money YIMM's Canadian investors may never get their money back—though their actions could benefit others.

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Maclean's
Where Financials Turn

Ross Laver



Hedge-fund hypocrisy

When the history of this year's global financial meltdown is written, there's bound to be a special chapter devoted to the artfully run amok at Long-Term Capital Management LP. That's the U.S. hedge fund whose near-collapse last month sent a shudder through the world's already-battered financial community.

The story of Long-Term Capital has it all: greed, hubris and a share of breathtakingly disregard for financial rule. To top it off, the fund's millionaire speculators, having blown it bigtime on several ill-advised investments in the subprime and housing markets, were lucky enough to be bailed out by the U.S. government, leaving a trail of bad will that still isn't fully healed.

To every rule there is an exception, and Long-Term was no outlier. In its exceptional fall from grace in 1994 by one of Wall Street's top traders, John Meriwether, it raised billions of dollars from the world's wealthy—the maximum investment was \$10 million (U.S.)—and borrowed billions more from an elite circle of banks and securities firms. For four years, it made up top dollar returns, but disaster struck when the Asian financial crisis spread to Russia and beyond. Nevertheless, and his trading career turned in a tail, he had made a huge difference before Russia, which ended in his favor when Meriwether distanced his debts and investors abandoned the robot.

Well, that's life in the big city. The real disaster surrounded the so-called rescue plan orchestrated by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board. What actually happened is that 15 major banks and investment houses, many of which had invested in and promoted it, for Long-Term, agreed to put up \$5.6 billion (Cdn.) to acquire 90 per cent of the fallen hedge fund. The deal leaves Meriwether and his buddies with a stake worth about \$625 million, less than 10 per cent of the value of their holdings at the beginning of the year. The firm has been bailed out, the average investor with \$15 million in the fund is now left with roughly \$980,000. Perhaps in some people's minds they deserved to lose everything, but if Long-Term had gone up in size it would have been forced to sell off all of its assets immediately, driving share prices down even further and punishing millions of innocent investors. The time, it really was the rich who paid the price.

Several recent surveys of market returns and volatility support the view that hedge funds, contrary to popular belief, are not aslo-

er than other investments. One study, which focused on the period from 1989 to 1993, found that the average annual return generated by U.S. hedge funds was 17.3 per cent, compared with the average 13.4 per cent return achieved by the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index. What's more, the probability of losing money in any 12-month period was 11.8 per cent for the hedge funds and 13.3 per cent for the S&P 500. "Hedge funds are not a modified portfolio that only increases diversification, but also increases returns and lowers portfolio volatility," says John Harrington, president of Financial Risk Management Ltd., a London-based consulting firm.

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Business NOTES

Hanging up on Sprint

Sprint Canada Inc. has become the victim of its own success. Faced with overburdened lines and service interruptions, the Toronto-based long-distance telephone company pulled the plug on its rate-cut calling plan. Envisaged in late July, the all-you-can-talk deal allowed customers to make an unlimited number of residential calls in Canada on evenings and weekends for \$35 a month. The company, owned by Cell-Net Enterprises Inc. of Toronto, downgraded the program last week to 800 calls a month, about 12 hours of calling—up to \$35 a month. After that, a 12-cent-per-minute charge kicks in. "We've seen a change in how many Canadians are using their long distance," said Sprint president Phil Basa. "The calling volume has increased and there's been migration right across the country."

But the company's rivals, including Bell Canada and BCTel, say they will stand by their \$30 deals, and hope that Sprint's customers will jump ship. While some competitors have had problems of their own with overloaded networks, they say the bugs have just about been fixed. "When customers get used to something," said Ray Ong, BCTel's senior vice-president of marketing, "they are not particularly pleased when it gets taken away." And that leaves the cheap talk will continue across Canada.



Company call centre in Toronto: network overload

inators will jump ship. While some competitors have had problems of their own with overloaded networks, they say the bugs have just about been fixed. "When customers get used to something," said Ray Ong, BCTel's senior vice-president of marketing, "they are not particularly pleased when it gets taken away." And that leaves the cheap talk will continue across Canada.

Bombardier's big deal

Bombardier Inc. landed its largest corporate buyer—worth \$1.5 billion—last week. BCTel, an industry group, says jets now account for four per cent of all U.S. long-haul flights, and that level should jump to 10 per cent by the end of 2003. Bombardier, which has a value of \$8.5 billion last year, also has 150 orders for its 13-seat Lear 45 business jet, which sells for \$12 million, and 80 orders for its up-to-30-seat Global Express business jet, which sells for \$67 million.

Bombardier's Embraer and Fairchild Dornier USA of St. John's, Tex., the future looks even brighter. The Regional Airlines group, an industry group, says jets now account for four per cent of all U.S. long-haul flights, and that level should jump to 10 per cent by the end of 2003. Bombardier, which has a value of \$8.5 billion last year, also has 150 orders for its 13-seat Lear 45 business jet, which sells for \$12 million, and 80 orders for its up-to-30-seat Global Express business jet, which sells for \$67 million.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

SEAWAY PRIVATIZED

The St. Lawrence Seaway steamed into a new era in its 30-year history when a private group representing the seaway's 1000 users took over its management from the federal government. Seaway traffic is far below its 1970s peak, but the new managers say they can reverse the seaway by making it more efficient.

BRYAN'S BACK

Montague Texas lawyer J.P. Bryan, the ousted court executive at Gulf Canada Resources Ltd., returned to Alberta's oilpatch as chairman of Calgary-based Canadian Oil Energy Corp. Under Bryan, the major life-hopes to become the premier natural gas producer in North America. This time, it really was the rich who paid the price.

The real year-to-August data, department store sales fell 7.6 per cent from July. The low dollar, however, in this business, can't be blamed entirely. Overnight flights by Americans jumped 1.12 per cent in the second quarter from the first quarter.

"Individual product price is unlikely to fall as some of that growth in September. However, the underlying trend still points to relatively modest producer price gains."

"Even with a modest reduction in borrowing costs to the markets ahead, the domestic rate in household debt during the 1990s and the sharp reduction in the propensity to save will reinforce a more cautious consumer-spending culture."

—Scotiabank





Peter C. Newman

The Viagra solution: a fix for economic ills

Suddenly, there's the smell of urine in the autumn breeze, the distinct aroma of unscrupulous investors going steady in their drug-fueled stock and shadow their reasonable outlooks. Desperate times require desperate measures. And maybe it will take a strong dose of Viagra to save the world for capitalism. (For details, please keep reading.)

Stripping risk from overexposed positions is always a good idea and it's certainly time for the overextended eight-year stock market to reach for more realistic values. But why such panic?

That's the nature of the beast. During the past few years, we have become slaves to hope and hyperbole. No typical high-tech company's earnings don't grow by 40 per cent a quarter, it seems. Stockholders have been overvalued for such a long time that with every earnings statement pass. Who Northern Telecom confirmed it would meet its profit projections but might experience lower revenues, hysterical investors last week valued more than \$9 billion below its market value.

What you expect, remember, reality is bound to disappoint.

History has教ed us so far. It's not quite a decade since the Berlin Wall came down and everything looked possible and cheerful. Among the more popular theories then, including some made in this column, was that the 21st century would be the Age of the Dragons—that China would lead the world economy into a new age of plenty. Please for the concept of the global village was heard everywhere, for the barriers it would create and the shared prosperity it would bring about on earth's green meadows.

Instead, the world seems to have imploded, and globalization turned out to mean nothing more complicated or beneficial than the nothing we're all in the same boat.

What's essential now is to keep one's nerve and decide whether we're facing the collapse of the world as we know it, or one of those many dips that eventually follow economic peaks. So far, the evidence strongly points to the latter. We most definitely are not in an economic endpoint bound to crash in another Depression. Taxes will get tougher, but providing the Americans don't respond to their growing trade deficit by becoming protectionist, most economies will recover, probably it's time to celebrate the reaffirmation, only 15 months from now. (Globes of certain energy indicators, the idea of a new start gives everybody hope; consumers will start spending again, and most economies will turn.)

Still, some bold reformers are essential. While Russia's plight is brutal, its economy remains too insignificant to worry anyone outside its immediate orbit. That's not true of Japan. That country's weary politicians will have to face the uncomfortable reality that the status

quo, which they have packaged under eight different but basically identical governments during the past decade, is no longer tenable. The country's interest rates have been hovering at or near zero for the past 38 months, but that intended incentive has had no effect. The country's largest municipality, Tokyo, is in fiscal crisis. Banks continue to fail and 22 of the country's largest corporations are in danger of having their credit ratings cut.

A political revolution designed to restructure its ingrained culture is needed. Because money here is such an essential part of the Oriental makeup, this will be difficult but not impossible. Without it, there can be no turnaround.

Despite the many weak and struggling players on three continents, the International Monetary Fund last week issued upbeat figures that showed the world's GDP for 1998 is still expected to increase by two per cent. (The IMF's growth prediction for Canada, at three per cent, was down only 0.2 percentage points from its original projection earlier this year.)

What the world fears most now is the kind of massive deflation triggered by a collapse in demand. That was what set off the Great Depression of the 1930s, when production and trade kept falling by an average of 30 per cent a year as countries were unwilling to produce the slack.

And that's where Viagra comes in.

The only sure way to rescue faltering economies is to stimulate consumer demand. The United States, where some 60 million adults have already used the sexual potency drug (and an estimated 30 million others need it), has experienced a remarkable boomlet in lifestyle-enhancing products, such as sport cars, yachts, long-haul travel and other items and activities that appeal to the senses. According to *Sexauer magazine*, Viagra is causing the old boys to experience a radical shift in their self-image, which in turn is loosening their purse strings—and they're in the generation with the most disposable cash. "The Viagra phenomenon," the magazine rhapsodized in its September issue, "is just like love—it's an entrepreneur's dream." The magazine even suggests longer in bed, the birth of 300,000 new "Viagra babies" by next spring, based on the historical average of a 13-per-cent impregnation rate for sex between 40-year-olds.

One of the few serious studies of the phenomenon agrees. "When men start feeling better about themselves," writes Dr. Steven Lamm in *The Viagra Solution*, a book on the Viagra revolution, "they start spending money. There's going to be more dining, more people going to restaurants. Every industry that benefits from increased spending will benefit."

Next time you're feeling frisky, don't fight it. Remember, you're saving the world's economy.

The sexual potency drug has the power to lead a consumer spending spree that could rescue faltering economies

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Planning Your Estate

For many Canadian families, it is an emotional minefield

BY BARBARA WICKENS

Ruth Berry knows she missed a golden opportunity. As a faculty studies professor and now dean of forest ecology at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Berry has taught personal finance and estate planning—management to generations of students. That, combined with a background in psychology, meant Berry was one of a handful of experts to whom Toronto-based mutual fund giant Firstmark Investments Management Inc. turned for advice when organizing the 1997 Mutual Fund Year Panels: Talking About Money. Her father, Harry, was equally comfortable with money matters, a former corporate executive. One of his main tasks was developing his company's employee benefit plans. Yet, somehow, the two never got around to discussing the terms of his estate before he died last November at age 83. "We were two people who got along and had financial backgrounds, probably far better than most—and we just didn't," recalls Berry, 56, who served as her father's executor. "His generosity considered such matters private. And I never brought it up because I was afraid of wounding two brothers, too acquisitive."

Thornes has a surprisingly common problem. Financial experts and disengagarians predict that over the next 20 years, the current generation of retired Canadians—nearly three million people—will bequeath about \$3 trillion in real estate, savings and other tangible assets to those born during and after the Second World War. That, in turn, has fuelled a boom in the business of estate planning. (page 50). Lawyers, accountants and financial advisers who specialize in helping people put their financial affairs in order generally try to take account of the raw emotion that surrounds the subject of death, death by bequest and inheritance, but ultimately their advice tends to focus on more practical matters: minimizing taxes, preserving capital and making sure that heirs are adequately provided for, to just three.

Ironically, however, nearly everything involving bequests and inheritance requires delicate handling. By definition,



someone who sits down to plan an estate must come to terms with his or her own mortality. When a death does occur, the survivors are forced to deal not only with the loss of a loved one, but the prospect of sorting in stark black-and-white—the terms of a will—how the deceased really felt about them. Whatever the legacy behind the drawing up of the assets, it's difficult for even the most sensible person not to feel that of brother Joe inherited more. It was because he was more loved. "With just touch on a whole package of sensi-

EARTHLY BODIES
Inspecting the
wants prior to
an estate sale
at Realtor's
Auctions
& Appraisers
in Toronto

stive areas," says Michael Sullivan, co-ordinator of the clinical program in the psychology department of Dalhousie University in Halifax. "Avalanche is the preferred method of dealing with these issues."

Experts say it is seldom money alone that causes friction among beneficiaries. Instead, people are much more likely to fight over personal effects, whose sentimental value often far exceeds any financial compensation. A woman's jewelry, for instance, may be coveted by several daughters and daughters-in-law, each of whom wishes to pass it on to her own children. The challenge of trying to pass on a family

business can also expose raw nerves. Perhaps the biggest single source of strife is that quintessentially Canadian institution, the family cottage.

Those and other difficulties can arise even in cases where family members tend to get along and the estate is relatively well planned. The problems are compounded when there is a black sheep in the family fold. There are estrangements involved, or the estate has been poorly planned—or not planned at all. In some cases, survivors may simply take by unconstitutional or even illegal means what they perceive to be rightfully theirs. In other instances, an individual who feels aggrieved may turn to the courts to challenge the will. Even if the son is groundless, it can tie up the estate for years.

Vancouver psychologist Patricia Donahue has experienced firsthand how easily a family can be ripped apart. In early 1987, she traveled to her childhood home in Dalhousie, N.B., to care for her dying mother following a heart attack. (Donahue's father had died seven years earlier.) One of the sibling women's sisters, however, had willed a will that divided the estate among her nine children. But the day after the funeral, a family member confronted Donahue and one of her three children at the door of her mother's house, where they had been staying—with a shotgun. "He begged me not to tell anybody who came over what was going to happen," recalls Donahue. "I was afraid he would kill someone." The following day, Donahue returned with several other siblings; together, they convinced their relative to let them make long enough to retrieve their belongings. On her way out, Donahue realized a pair of serving scissors: "That's the only memory of hers that I got," she says.

There was more trouble to come. It turned out that Donahue's mother had prepared a subsequent will leaving the entire estate—including the house, an orchard and enough land to build four more houses—to one of the brothers. Along with one of his siblings who still lived near the mother's house, Donahue decided to contest the second will. But after she returned to Vancouver, the two New Brunswick-based siblings vanished and so Donahue dropped the suit. Years later, Donahue's relationship with these three remains shattered because of the estate transfer. Says Donahue: "My family all thought it would be pretty straightforward, and look what happened."

Without exception, experts say the best way to avoid problems is for parents and children to communicate openly before they need

to deal with such questions arises. But research indicates just how difficult it is for Canadian families to broach money-related topics. In a 1997 study for TriMark by the polling firm Environment Research Group Ltd., respondents said that discussing financial issues with their parents was as difficult as discussing death—although, thankfully, easier than talking about sex. Among those who expected to inherit money from their parents or in-laws, nearly half (47 per cent) had no idea how much they would be receiving.

Deborah Sullivan is not surprised by these findings. "Money touches on many tender psychological points," he explains. "For example, if I'm having money difficulties, I don't want people to know that, because it implies I have been able to manage my financial life. Or if we're doing well with money, the implication is that we have had a life because we've somehow survived and we may actually have been shrewd or dishonest in managing it." Adds Sullivan: "Whether we're doing well or poorly, it's not something we can just chat about casually."

The issues become even more complex when the conversation is about bequeathing or inheriting money. "The dividing up of the pot is going to become a relative importance in the family," says Sullivan. "Certainly, there are many planning decisions you probably they're not going to bring up the issue. And if I ever had thoughts about my standing in the family, I can probably bring it up after." In fact, Sullivan never has. "I would never dream of it," he says. "My in-laws don't, so I'm not going to bring it up, and my mother-in-law long way from going, so I'm not going to bring it up with her either."

In many cases, older people who have a much more conservative attitude towards money compared with today's free-spending baby boomers. The generation raised during the Great Depression typically inherited little from their own parents and worked hard for everything they got. As a result, they feel that the money is theirs, they can do with it what they please and they don't have to explain their actions to anybody. And from a legal point of view, they are largely correct. In every province and territory, legislation requires that people writing wills provide for their spouse and any dependent children. But beyond

about mental capacity, a reputable estate planner would normally consider a physical. "The court decisions are starting to provide a measure of protection against financial gifts," says Paul St. Louis, a senior will and estate planner with BMO Trust in Ottawa. Judges are increasingly requiring those who launch a suit without intent to pay their own costs, rather than leaving the costs to the other party.

An estate planner like to point out, fair treatment does not necessarily mean equal treatment. Catherine Roberts, a lawyer responsible for the trust and estate planning practice at the law firm of MacEachern Black, says there are sometimes valid reasons for a client to provide for an unequal distribution of an estate to a spouse or children, or even exclude a natural beneficiary altogether. These might have been an entrepreneurship between parent and child, or one child might have been more caring and attentive. Roberts suggests that in such instances, it helps if the deceased has left a letter to be opened



ENRICHED MEMORIES Donahe with her mother's sewing scissors, Betsy Inglett, with photographs of her father, who died before they could talk in detail about his estate

How to broach the subject

Adult children often dread the prospect of discussing inheritances with their parents for fear of sounding greedy or—worse—impudent for their parents to die. Some expert suggestions on how to broach a conversation:

- Listen carefully for any openings. If parents mention that they are thinking of leaving the china cabinet to one of their children, they may be hinting they are ready to talk about the rest of the estate.
- Keep it neutral, perhaps by discussing your own plans or asking if they would like to consult a financial adviser or other third party.
- If the subject is particularly sensitive, stress that you don't need to know the details of their estate plan—just that they have, in fact, one in place.
- Talk about the consequences of not having an estate plan. The property will eventually be passed on to the next of kin according to a set formula that varies from province to province, but the transfer will take time and may not be in accordance with the deceased person's wishes.
- Start a new family tradition by discussing your estate with your own grown children. And encourage them to consider their own estate plans. Young adults, especially those with a company pension plan, often have more assets than they realize.

Often, one of the most sensitive and highly charged areas of estate planning is deciding what to do about the family cottage

at the writing of the will. "If they explain fair thinking, things may still be hurt," says the lawyer, "but at least people will understand why they did what they did."

While such letters do not have the legal status of wills, they often exert a great deal of moral influence. Cecile, a Vancouver lawyer, who doesn't want her real name used, wishes her mother had left a letter outlining her intentions when she died 12 years ago. As is often the case, her entire estate went to her spouse. But recently Cecile and her sister were horrified to learn that their father plans to leave everything to his second wife. As a result, they will cut inheritance of any of their mother's cherished possessions. "We're not talking anything of any real value—just some of her clothes and household articles," says Cecile. "But we're really bitter that the appealing woman will get our mother's things."

Family-owned businesses can also turn into emotional land mines. Even when only one of several siblings is willing and capable of taking over the company, the parent is often consumed with guilt because of this or her desire to treat the other children fairly. It is really important that brothers be honest with the brothers and others about what they want to happen to their businesses when they are gone, says Michael Zinmanman, a senior manager in the tax group of the Vancouver office of BDO/CPA, an international consulting firm. "A lot of times, they don't want the business to succeed," he says. "It comes out in the end that they don't want to think that someone else can do a better job than they do. Sometimes, if you get down to the nitty-gritty, that's why they don't want to sit down to discuss what they want. They want the family to sell the business."

Deciding what to do with the family cottage can be even tougher.

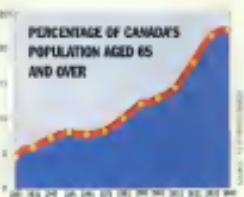
"When a client comes in to plan his or her estate and there is a cottage among the assets, I usually go, 'Wow, I better put aside a little longer than the norm for this consultation,'" says lawyer Roberta. "Rarely in my experience has this been straightforward." Often, the parent wants the cottage to remain in the family forever, she says. But if the offspring are geographically dispersed, that may not be practical. Should siblings who live far away receive an ownership share equal to that who live nearby, even though they may never visit? Who will be responsible for the property's upkeep? Sometimes, says St. Louis, only one of the children actually wants the cottage, the others would be happy to lease it to the other asset. The best way to determine this is for everyone in the family to discuss the various options openly, long before the need arises.

One Toronto woman has learned the hard way the importance of tackling such difficult topics with her parents. Budget, 55, a homemaker with two small children, grew up in a typical middle-class Italian-Canadian family. "With my parents being as frugal as they were," the recalls, "I found that it was hard for them to trust even their kids with money." Budget's father died in February 1997, after being diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease three years earlier. Suddenly, Budget found herself having to assume all of the administrative and tax-planning duties for her mother, while juggling her father's investment portfolio. "When someone who you have a really close," says Budget. "Before that, we didn't talk about money issues. These days, if I ask my mom, she'll answer me, 'Talk may be cheap, but not talking about such things can take both an emotional and a financial toll."

GOLDEN YEARS

The share of the population that is aged 65 and over has been rising fairly steadily ever since the federal government started to keep good records in 1921. In that period of time, there has been only one slight dip, between 1951 and the late 1950s—mostly because the postwar baby boom caused a decline in the average age of the rest of the population.

More recently, says John Kettle, a consulting futurist based in Ottawa, Ont., the growth rate of the seniors' population has slowed, primarily as a result of the smaller number of people turning 65. The reason, Kettle says, is that there were markedly fewer people born in the years after the First World War and during the Depression, when economic pressures



led many families to have fewer children.

Consequently, the rapid increase in the seniors' population that is expected to occur between 2010 and 2030 will be caused by the aging of the baby boomers at a time when the rest of the population will be growing more slowly.

No time like the present

Why estate planning has become a hot-button issue

BY SANDY PIPE

Financial guru Jerry White can always pack the house, even if it's in the middle of one of the worst hot-waves to hit Toronto in recent years. On this particular occasion, about 120 trusting souls, mostly seniors, have gathered in a suburban hotel to hear what the well-known author and broadcaster has to say about estate planning. "Jerry White explains and advises, but he doesn't press you to go into a particular investment," says Michael Hazel, a retired real estate broker who is attending the event. "He's concerned about seniors, and he appears to be honest."

Appropriately, so far this evening, the free, two-hour program turns out to be little more than an informational seminar. No insurance, White puts on a good show, to be sure. The audience nods, laughs and groans as he sprays it with his trademark mixture of facts and figures, carry-jokes and potshots at greedy old Revenue Canada. But he begins and ends by plugging universal life and the estate-planning expertise of Tony Lewis, an adviser with Fortune Financial Corp., a national chain of financial planning shops. Lewis, it turns out, has sponsored the event to drum up business for himself and his two associates, chartered accountant Caronca, DaSilva and lawyer Gary Cato. "When you bring this team together, magic things will happen," White promises. As an added incentive, White tells audience members that if they sign up on the spot for a free consultation, they will be eligible for a door prize.

Estate-planning seminars are an ubiquitous as diet doctors these days, and for good reason. Canada's 6.9 million baby boomers are moving into their 50s, watching their parents age and die, and gradually coming to grips with their own mortality. In the 1970s and 1980s, when members of the same generation were entering the financial market in droves, real estate prices took a sudden upward turn. By the early 1990s, the mutual fund industry was experiencing rapid growth as investors started saving in earnest for retirement. Now, the focus appears to be shifting again, and the result is a surge in demand for information about wills, inheritances and executors' services.

Financial services companies design their marketing campaigns around the life cycles of their customers. As the huge

postwar generation ages, the industry has started to look beyond retirement to a subject less dear to people's hearts—dying. But some industry officials caution that buyers should beware: many firms are taking advantage of the cushion to aggressively push products and services that are, at best, optional or simply unnecessary. "Estate planning is a hot button," says David Christensen, a financial planner with Macdonald Shrybman & Co., a fee-only financial planning and investment counseling firm with offices in Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Christensen himself runs between six and 10 seminars a year on estate planning, plus another 25 or 30 that deal with a broad range of financial topics. His seminars include brokerage firms and a group of mutual fund centres. "I'm careful about the people to whom I'll lend my name," says Christensen. The key distinction in his case is that he charges clients an advisory fee and does not accept commissions on the products he sells. Adds Christensen: "I don't want to be used as bait to attract people to product seminars."

At its most basic, estate planning means arranging a will and finances to simplify the transfer of assets to heirs. For most people, it is not a do-it-yourself project, if only because that approach can produce disastrous results for those left behind. Yet a little advice goes a long way. Christensen and many other planners say: Most people's affairs are fairly simple, and what they re-

quire more than anything is some straightforward advice on the options available to them. Only then can they decide whether it is worth spending money on more elaborate products and strategies such as additional insurance policies, specialized investment funds and professional executor services.

Nobody really knows how big the estate-planning pie is. But combine the enormous financial needs Canadians have amassed outside of pension plans in the past two decades with Canada's rapidly ageing population, and a business appears to be at theaking. Most estate-planning experts believe the amount of wealth available for transfer to the next generation is the most it's growing every year. And they expect it to stay at or above 2006, when many boomers—presumably enriched by their own investment gains and inheritances from their parents—start moving into their 50s. "Our whole industry is investing heavily in processes and systems to make estate settlement more efficient," says Rob Hall, senior vice-president of global private banking and trust services for the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. "I expect the industry will double the volume of the trustee business it does in 10 years, and sustain that peak for 10 years after that."

Trust and insurance companies once dominated the estate-planning market. Now, investment firms, financial planning firms and even some mutual fund companies are fighting for a piece of it, too. The battle, says Therese Gravelle, senior vice-president of investment and estate services at Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., is partly a result of the blurring of distinctions between what used to be called the four pillars of the Canadian financial system—bank trust and insurance companies, and investment firms. Today, banks, insurers and trust companies all sell investment products, while mutual fund companies are also beginning to offer segregated funds—a type of mutual investment product that combines the potential gains of the stock market with some form of guaranteed protection of principal. Meanwhile, investment dealers are providing some banking services and many individual brokers and financial advisers are becoming life and health insurance

AGING IN STYLE
Annette Elmer of Novell's Raynor Divers

Merrill Lynch (Bancorp Canada Inc.) was one of the first Canadian investment dealers to take advantage of the estate-planning field in recent years. Now, about 60 per cent of the firm's 1,500 brokers—“the preferred to the today’s financial community”—are “now devoted to self insurance.” The company also has insurance specialists on staff and an informal “support network” of lawyers and accountants a phone call away.

Like most of its competitors, Merrill Lynch is hoping that clients use its financial consultants in their entry point into estate planning. The idea is that the consultants will take care of the clients’ investment and insurance needs, then steer them to lawyers who can help them create a will and deal with such questions as whether to grant someone power of attorney over their affairs in the event of mental incapacity. Should the estate in question be large enough and the tax issues sufficiently complicated, the consultant might also call in an accountant who can advise the client on complicated tax reduction measures such as estate freezing, which transfers any future appreciation in the value of selected assets to the eventual heirs.

Gravelle's department spends a large part of its marketing budget on estate-planning brochures and seminars, hoping to attract consumers who have begun to think about estate planning, but have yet to take action. Gravelle herself writes most of the Merrill Lynch brochures and appears at as many as 75 seminars a year across the country. “We’ve got 500 people on each and such a radio—can you name one?” she says. “It’s just the words ‘estate planning’ or ‘retirement planning.’”

Little wonder. A recent survey by Emdocs Research Group Ltd. for Thrush Investment Management Inc. found that more than 30 per cent of Canadians expect to receive an inheritance from their parents; among those who anticipate a dollar amount, half expect to receive more than \$50,000. In another survey, sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association, the Tax Society of Upper Canada, and several corporate and charitable organizations, proved as popular that it has now become Make-a-Wish Month. This year's version, which runs through October, is being marked with seminars in 29 communities across the province, up from 22 last year. Toronto estate lawyer Ed Ulryck, one of the founders of the program, says



RISING A WAVE Merrill Lynch's Gravelle travels the country giving seniors an estate-planning



GREAT EXPECTATIONS



Value of anticipated inheritance
(among those expecting to inherit)



(Numbers do not add up to 100 because of rounding)

SOURCE: Toronto Mutual Fund Association Inc. © 1998 Mutual Fund Association Inc.

other provincial law societies are hoping to ban such events.

Of course, one reason estate-planning seminars are so popular is the profession's desire to promote them. Stripped to its essentials, it goes something like this: *The government is out to push what should rightfully go to your children and grandchildren, so don't ever think about dying unless you've got a non-progressive strategy for extracting maximum benefit from your assets and financial planners.*

That kind of message, while useful for whipping up low-earning practice charts, is highly misleading, according to many experts. For one thing, there are no estate or urban inheritance taxes in Canada, merely capital gains and income taxes that are payable on the deceased person's final tax return. "If your estate consists of the family home, some non-RRSP investments and maybe some money in a RRIF, like the vast majority of estates, there will be very little tax owing," says Paul Bourassa, a financial planner with Polson Bourassa Financial in Toronto. But those estate-planning seminars and sales pitches with a gigantic grain of salt. You may learn something useful from them, but they aren't done as a public service. Somebody's got an axe to grind."

Often, the goal is to push people into signing up for corporate executor or trustee services, or a life insurance policy to cover taxes after death. But those products and services are expensive and most people do not require them, says Warren Baldwin, a fee-only financial planner with T.E. Financial Consultants Ltd. in Toronto. In most provinces, for instance, corporate executors are entitled to charge as much as five per cent of the total value of estates they settle. According to Baldwin, it is usually cheaper and just as effective to appoint as executor a friend or family member, then empower that person to hire a financial planner or lawyer by the hour when needed.

Another expense that can be of questionable benefit is whole and universal life insurance to cover taxes after death. The premiums are often several thousand dollars a year, a poor investment if the estate is small or the client needs the cash now. "We're not here just to help people leave the biggest possible pile of money when they die," Baldwin says. "The priority should be to make sure the client has enough to enjoy what's left of his or her life." Adds Bourassa: "There's a danger in so-called package selling, where a firm advises all its clients to do something like buy enough insurance to cover the tax on their RRIFs. It may solve one problem but cause another."

In fact, there are many ways to minimize taxes and provide the cash to pay them, and a good adviser should be able to explain the alternatives. But finding someone who fits that description is sometimes easier said than done. "I think consumers are reasonably confused about who they should turn to for advice, and the reason is there is no such thing as an 'estate planner' in this country," says Jim Rogers, president of the Rogers Group Financial Advisors Ltd. in Vancouver. "It's not like being a doctor. An estate planner, like a financial planner, is anyone who chooses to call himself or herself that."

Jerrine Grady, a financial planner with Equicom Securities Canada Ltd. in Dartmouth, N.S., says he often sees ads in the newspaper for



FINANCIAL CONFUSION Commentator, says Rogers, do not know where they should turn for advice.

To get some idea
of how static-free
our digital phones are

listen to this ad.

'People should take these sales pitches with a gigantic grain of salt,' says one veteran planner

estate-planning sessions by people who are merely sales representatives. "They have no professional qualifications at all. They'll get a lawyer to give the talk, but that's not who you end up dealing with," says Grady, who is president of the Halifax Estate Planning Council.

Because the field is unregulated, Rogers tells people who are looking for an estate-planning adviser to ask candidates for references, along with a written account of their qualifications, services and prices. Another option is to pick up an estate-planning kit at a bookstore. But that approach has its own risks, such as overlooking important tax or legal consequences. For instance, says Baldwin, people may feel they are being fair by naming one of their two children the direct beneficiary of a \$200,000 retirement income fund, and leaving the other the balance of the estate—a principal residence also worth \$200,000. But while the house would not be subject to capital gains tax, the estate will

be responsible for paying income tax on the RRIF. As a result, the house may have to be sold—shortchanging one of the heirs.

Perhaps the worst thing a person can do is to leave behind a messy Toronto writer Wayne Riley spent the better part of a year trying to wind up his father's estate, of which he is executor. His father's will, dated in 1988, was handwritten and un witnessed. Riley had to find someone to testify in court that the handwriting was his father's. He also spent many weeks tracing old stock certificates to see whether they still had value, and trying to determine how much his father paid for the shares in order to calculate his capital gains.

Such a task takes not a strong executive to work at least some assistance when putting an estate in order. As a minimum, experts say, people should have their lawyers look over the wills and power-of-attorney papers. If the estate consists of significant assets beyond the family home—or if there are complications such as a second marriage—they should consult a lawyer, accountant or financial planner who is knowledgeable about estate planning issues. SEE. "It need not be an expensive or time-consuming project. "Most estates are relatively simple, and the planning required is not terribly complex," says Baldwin. Aging baby boomers, and their parents, can be thankful for that. □



Our digital phones offer enhanced noise reduction for state of the art sound quality. No wonder we're the world leader in digital communications. *Have you heard?*

ERICSSON 

Getting started

A modest amount of work now can pay off down the road

In a survey conducted last year by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, 58 per cent of respondents ranked estate planning as important. But when the same bank asked its customers whether they had actually done any estate planning, 53 per cent said no.

People tend to avoid contemplating their own mortality and, not surprisingly, often neglect to plan for the distribution of their financial assets and other property when they die. Yet for their own sake and the sake of their heirs, every adult should have at least a basic understanding of inheritance law and the tax treatment of the property they leave behind, says Sandra Foster, a financial adviser with Bauson Securities Canada Ltd. in Toronto and author of *You Can't Take It With You: The Common-Sense Guide to Estate Planning for Canadians*. According to Foster, it is particularly important that anyone with young children or other dependents make a will outlining the provisions for their care. What follows is a summary of expert recommendations for an estate plan.

LIFE INSURANCE

Policies that provide a trustee lump sum to a named beneficiary on the death of the policyholder are primarily intended to provide for dependents who would otherwise be left without a financial cushion. When purchased for that purpose, insurance usually makes good financial sense. Other proposed uses, however, such as paying the policyholder's final income-tax bill, should be subjected to a thorough cost-benefit analysis, says Foster.

There are two kinds of life insurance: term and permanent. Term insurance policies, which must be renewed periodically, are less expensive in the early years than permanent insurance policies, which can include savings or investment plans. Permanent insurance tends to carry higher sales fees as well as higher premiums.

WILLS

Many people fear that the government will take more of their assets if they die without a will. That is not the case, although the absence of a will prevents inheritance laws from determining who gets how much. The law could also require that assets be liquidated, with each child receiving a full share immediately.

Other legislation can also affect how an estate is settled, says Catherine Roberts, an estate lawyer with the Toronto law firm of McMillan Blaikie. For example, if a will gives a spouse less than 50 per cent of the estate, he or she can claim a so-called equalization payment from the estate, rather than the amount bequeathed, by



exercising rights under the Family Law Act of Ontario. Similar provisions are in effect in other provinces.

To avoid complications, experts advise having a lawyer to draw up a will, appointing guardians for any dependent children and detailing who gets what. Most lawyers will draft a will for a few hundred dollars, and then make changes required by birth, death, divorce and other family events for a similar amount. A lawyer is a general practitioner who should also refer people to a specialist if the personal situation is complicated enough to warrant it, Roberts says.

PROBATE FEES AND TAXES

After death, it is the executor's job to determine whether or not a will needs to be probated—created as valid in probate court. Probate fees vary from province to province. In Ontario, where there is no cap on them, they can amount to as much as 1.5 per cent of the gross value of the estate. It is possible to sidestep probate fees by using methods other than probate to transfer assets to heirs. For instance, investment plans such as RRSPs and RRIFs can be distributed by naming beneficiaries. Private lives can also be avoided through joint ownership of assets with the intended heirs. Caution is recommended, however: if the child gets divorced while the parent is still alive, joint ownership of mutual funds or a family cottage could be part of the marital property that is on the table.

Although Canada has no estate taxes as such, income tax must be

paid on tax-deferred schemes such as RRSPs and RRIFs on the deceased person's final tax return, unless they are rolled over to a spouse. Capital gains tax is also payable on property and capital investments such as a company stock, which are deemed sold at death even though they may have been willed to heirs. Very losses can be used to reduce the final tax bill. The one major exception is the principal residence, which is exempt from capital gains.

TESTAMENTARY TRUSTS

The trust is a legal device that can be used to manage assets and control their use after death. It is administered by a trustee, who is responsible for filing a trust tax return and paying taxes, making investment decisions and distributing the assets and income according to the terms of a will that established the testamentary trust.

Often, testamentary trusts are used to provide for a spouse's financial needs while making sure that children ultimately inherit the bulk of the estate. In such cases the trustees generally entitled to the use of the assets in the trust and any income they earn. The assets themselves go to the children after the spouse's death or when they reach a specific age. Trusts of this nature are especially popular when a spouse has remarried and has children from a previous marriage.

Other common uses for testamentary trusts are to provide for a disabled child or relative or to reduce a spouse's tax by income from revocable capital willed to him or her.

EXECUTORS AND TRUSTEES

The job of an executor is to shepherd a will through probate court and ensure that its directions about the distribution of assets are fulfilled. Technically, trustees

Costs that are all over the map

Probate fees—the amount charged by the courts to certify a will as valid—vary from province to province:

BRITISH COLUMBIA: \$200 for estates under \$25,000, \$200 plus \$6 per \$1,000 for estates between \$25,000 and \$50,000; \$250 plus \$16 per \$1,000 for estates over \$50,000.

SASKATCHEWAN: \$12 for the first \$3,000 or less; \$7 per additional \$1,000.

MANITOBA: \$6 per \$1,000.

ONTARIO: \$5 per \$1,000 for the first \$50,000, \$35 per additional \$1,000.

QUEBEC: No fee for wills drawn up by a notary; \$60 for self-drawn English wills—type

written documents in French or English that are signed by the testator in front of two witnesses.

NOVA SCOTIA: Rates start at \$75 for the first \$10,000, increasing to \$800 for estates of \$200,000 or more.

NEW BRUNSWICK: \$5 per \$1,000.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND: Rates start at \$50. For the first \$10,000, increasing to \$400 for estates of \$100,000 or more.

NEWFOUNDLAND: Rates start at \$50. For the first \$10,000, increasing to \$800 for estates of \$100,000 or more.

When to call in the experts

The more money you have and the more complicated your financial affairs, the more likely you are to benefit from estate planning advice. In particular, you may want to consult a professional estate-planner if you:

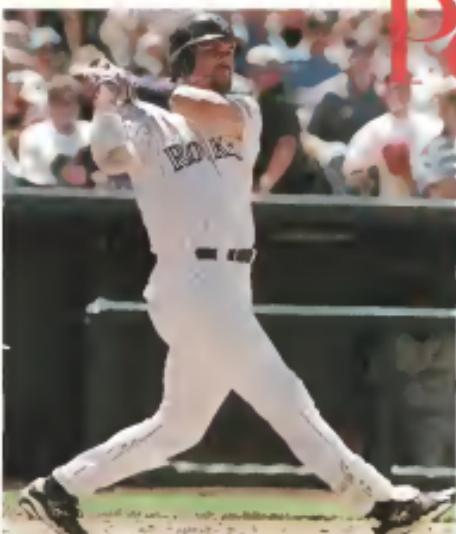
- are remarrying and have children from a previous relationship;
- have a large amount of money in RRSPs or RRIFs and are worried about the impact of income tax on your estate;
- have large unrealized capital gains on investments or property, and want to minimize the tax liability;
- own your own business or a holding company;
- want to maximize your deduction to a favorite charity;
- put a high priority on minimizing taxes and probate fees.



authority to make financial and other practical decisions, the other gives the testator the right to make personal-care decisions—like leaving a will, to name a successor or request an end to life support in the late stages of a terminal illness.

While appointing executors, experts say, it is a good idea for people to formalize their wishes in a living will—a document setting out guidelines for managing financial affairs and medical treatment in case they become incompetent to make their own decisions. Do-it-yourself kits for powers of attorney and living wills are available in many bookstores. Alternatively, a lawyer can draft the necessary documents.

SANDY PAPKE



Walker: His batting title didn't ease the disappointment of failing to make the playoffs

The Canadian hit man

Clouds loom over Larry Walker as he plays the outfield with reckless abandon, flying by fly balls and crashing into walls, so it is no surprise that he finished the major-league baseball season with debilitating back and elbow injuries. Those ailments hampered his swing, and the 31-year-old from Maple Ridge, B.C., was unable to match the astounding home-run and run-average totals that earned him the 1987 most valuable player award in the National League. Still, the banged-up slugger reached an amazing milestone last week, edging former Toronto Blue Jay John Olerud for the NL batting title. Walker's batting average—he hit for a prolific .363 average—was the first won by a Canadian since St. Louis pitcher Tip O'Neill of Woodstock, Ont., hit a whopping .355 in 1887.

The title did not ease Walker's disappointment that the Rockies finished fourth in the NL West. "The bottom line is we're not going to the playoffs, regardless of what I did," he says. "I won the MVP, that's great. I won the batting title, that's great. But I'm in this game to win a championship." And Walker's accomplishment was overshadowed by the epic home-run duel between Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa, which captured four editions of year. McGwire, the brawling St. Louis first baseman who was the first to break Roger Maris's 37-year-old home-run record of 61, finished the season with an astounding 70, four more than Chicago outfielder Sosa.

But after he hit .365 last year, Walker's 1998 title creates his reputation within baseball as one of the game's most feared hitters—and surprises the man who did not hit better than .300 in the minor leagues. "I never in my wildest dreams imagined hitting 300 over years in a row," Walker says. Given an all-season to heal, he may start dreams again all these in a row.

People

Edited by
TANIA DAVIES

A harmonized life

To call Catherine Monksian an overachiever is an understatement. The 17-year-old Toronto violinist made her first stage appearance at the age of 4. She won the top prize at the Canadian Music Competition when she was 12, had her solo debut (with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra) shortly after, and made her European debut in Paris at 16. Her first CD, *Etudes and Romances*, was released in March, and she is recording another in December. The CBC is using one of her pieces on Oct. 26, and next year she is booked for an eight-city tour of Japan. On top of that, Monksian skipped Grade 12, and she maintains an A average in school despite the fact that she must rely on e-mail instruction from her



Monksian: an achiever because 'I'm organized'

teacher when she's performing out of town. "I'm just a normal person," insists Monksian, who practices three to four hours daily. "I'm able to do all this because I'm organized."

Monksian grew up with the violin. Both of her parents, Renata and Marko, taught as solo-violinists in Europe before moving to Canada. Monksian first picked up the instrument at age 2, and when she was 5, her parents began teaching her (together) all her older brothers' piano. At 13, she started travelling to New York City to study with renowned violin teacher Dorothy DeLay. In the past four years, she has performed in concert halls across North America. How does she respond to being called a child prodigy? "It's OK, but it's not what I call myself. 'Which is?' A musician."

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Education NOTES

A virtual presence at school

Fighting off three chronic illnesses takes a lot of work for an 11-year-old. Last year, Olivia Blackman was absent 75 days from her senior kindergarten class, and every time she returned it was like the first day of school all over again. But this year, the fractious girl is not going to miss school—or at least the social interaction that a Grade 1 class provides. Thanks to an eagle-shaped robot called PEBBLES, Blackman is assured at least a virtual presence in her classroom at Five Oaks sprawling Gabrielle Roy elementary school in downtown Toronto. Using a Nintendolike controller attached to her harness, she can move PEBBLES around to follow the classroom and even raise its hand to get the teacher's attention. Two-way communication equipment can hear everything that is going on in the classroom and communicate her two-earld voice via a computer server. Olivia typically works on after the morning recess for an hour and a half and then is strong enough to go to school on her own for the afternoon. "PEBBLES has made a great difference in our lives," says Madeline Brause, Olivia's mother. "It has allowed Olivia to get her rest in the morning, which she desperately needs."



Blackman's window on her Grade 1 class: maintaining social interaction during illness

The creation of Graham Smith, an artist and president of a small interactive firm, Telekots Inc., the \$90,000 kid-friendly PEBBLES, which stands for "providing education by bringing learning environments to students," has been under development from hospital rooms in Toronto and London, Ont., for more than a year. Meanwhile, the Bay department store is getting into the act: by donating a dollar from every sale of its Wayne Gretzky clothes, it hopes to put a PEBBLES in a dozen children's hospitals across Canada by the end of 1999.

McClassroom rebellion

It's the head-nurse classroom as an inevitable byproduct of the fast-losing fight on Canadian campuses? Maple leafs at the University of Victoria are thinking about backing the trend—that is, if its corporate friends agree. Seven companies—including the Royal Bank, Insurance Canada Public and Merrill Lynch—had been assured that their \$125,000-plus gifts would earn them a named classroom at the Victoria, B.C., university. Teaching that in last week's round of government negotiations, union students proposed the "McClassroom" with what they called "McClassrooms." Vice-chancellor David Strode suggested his corporate donors do with an alternative the creation of a donor-led, nonprofit with their names. "It's that idea that we're trying to," Strode told the governors—to the chagrin of the students in the audience—he will propose that their corporate regime an committee on the classroom door with that of an individual of their choice.

On Queen's in Kingston, Ont., and the University of Toronto, which were first through losing top students to the United States, acceptance for next year's first-year classes was to go out in March. This month's earlier than previous year, the application deadline was last November, forcing an extension to Dec. 4, but a move being held still with the latest news still

comes with the labor strife still "a dog's breakfast," in the words of Marshall Jones, head of the Ontario Teachers' Federation. Teachers' Association, getting an education in Ontario this year is going to be something of a challenge. The back-to-work law only affects the eight of 72 boards who were on strike or in a lockout, adding strike and other protests are still under way in many cities. And for a set of government-inspired reforms that were supposed to return to the province's education system, teachers are now going back to class with greatly varying workloads, depending on when they were in the negotiating process when the official school year was to have begun.

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CHALLENGE OF THE HIGHWAY

BY DAVID JOHNSTON



PHOTOGRAPH BY RON BURGESS

The author of *Getting Canada Online: Understanding the Information Highway* poses the question, "How do we move from data to wisdom?"

We live in a remarkable time in history. Two dozen letters spelling out the words beginning with C that capture this truth chapter and code. The chip is the silicon semiconductor circuit, which has triggered the information revolution. The code is that of the human genome: thanks to advances in microbiology, built on powerful microscopes and computers, we are about to decipher the entire blueprint for human beings. Both these ciphers have profound implications for the human condition: they open a galaxy of questions about change, choice and challenge. In terms of change, the information revolution is a compelling and lasting disruptive force in our society, disruptions equal to those of the agricultural or industrial revolutions. But the pace of change is faster than before, it comes in weeks and months rather than decades and generations. And the choices before us are unparallelled. This revolution gives us a new set of tools. With with an abundance, how do we move from data to information to knowledge to wisdom? How do we acquire and exercise the critical thinking to choose the right questions to elicit the information we need to improve our lives? Finally, the question of challenge: can our society establish a balance, using these tools to increase wealth, strengthen social and civic orderlessness and enhance political liberty?

Look back in history to the discovery of fire, the Stone Age, new the Bronze Age and then the Iron Age. Consider the transition from human-to-horse to farmers, from human power to animal power, the introduction of water power, steam power, electricity, the telephone, automobile and airplane. Each of these had substantial transformation effects over several generations. Moore's Law—attributed to Gordon Moore, the former CEO of chipmaker Intel—predicted that computer capacity would double every two years, thanks to the increasing ability to concentrate more information on a silicon chip. And for more than two decades, it has powered the information revolution. Fundamental "subatomic" research to discover how to store information on the minute surfaces of atoms—rather than on external circuitaries

—may allow further capacity breakthroughs. In long-distance communications, distance is dead, thanks to this silicon and consequential telephone rate wars. Internet communication from one corner of the globe to the other is almost instant, and virtually cost free. The irony in this transformation—a classic sword-to-plowshares story—is particularly striking. The Internet began three decades ago in the highly secret, tightly controlled communication network of the U.S. defense department. Anticipating a Third World War, the generals designed a fail-safe spider web of computer communication links which, in the event of a nuclear bombing, would still allow the commander-in-chief to deploy US nuclear weapons. Clever minds began to use the system for confidential communications between the defense department and research scientists doing classified research across the country. Gradually, the scientists began to use it for communication among themselves. Then, came the deluge: their graduate students discovered their Internet. There was as far as thinking back. From that point on, it evolved into an

extremely cheap, largely un governed, ubiquitous interactive communication network of fire-spots. Only recently has it been discovered by business, which hopes to turn the playground into its storefronts of commerce.

This brings us to the issue of choice: should we use these tools and how? Again, we must return to history for lessons. An appropriate place to stop 500 years ago when Gutenberg's technological revolution was followed by Martin Luther's social and cultural revolution. Johannes Gutenberg, a German jeweler, went bankrupt in 1450 trying to manufacture his printing press or movable type. It was not until several generations later, back in 1486 that Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Wittenberg church door. Gutenberg's technological breakthrough grew social and cultural legs. Why? Because Luther translated the Bible into vernacular German, as John Wycliffe did earlier in English in the Middle Ages. The most important relationship was that between the individual and God. By making the language which informed that relationship accessible, the individualized God were no longer separated by priests, bishops, cardinals or popes. People could become informed on their own and begin to think critically. This informed the Protestant Reformation, followed then by the Age of Reason, the Industrial Revolution and modern liberal democracy.

In Victor Hugo's *Notre-Dame de Paris*, written in 1831, the

King of France visits the archbishops of Paris in his chapter in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame. The cleric points to the printed Bible with one hand and to Notre Dame with the other and says: "This will destroy that." "This" represented the printing press, and the understanding of the Bible. "That" was the Church as it then stood. It is an iconic undercurrent of our sense of history that today's popular identified version of Hugo's classic ends on this scene, suggesting that the popular reader's interest is confined to the beauty-and-best soap operas theme of love and death.

Compare the civilization of western Europe with that of Islam and China in 1500. In terms of technology, Islam and China were ahead of western Europe. China was using movable type at least 600 years before western Europe; paper long before first, and gunpowder when Marco Polo arrived several hundred years earlier. In 1492, Islam was superior in military engineering, architecture and agriculture and as far as had reached the ramparts of Madrid and the gates of Jerusalem.

But then the tables turned. Western Europe began a trajectory, dramatically outpacing China and the world of Islam at least in wealth creation and in political liberty. Why? Fleable institutions of governance conquered fractious, new cities provided cradles for creative capacity. Newly literated individuals



Essays on the MILLENNIUM

world begins to question, to revision, to revise, to rethink and create. Europe was better at managing the triangle of success: wealth creation, social cohesion and political liberty. Today, we are faced with a painful challenge: can we use the new tools of information technology to enhance and strengthen the synergy across the three corners of the same triangle? Modern China has chosen the first corner, wealth creation, but has dismissed the third—political liberty. Through its One-Party state, the Soviet Union may have sacrificed political liberty, but has demonstrated both wealth creation and social cohesion. Modern Islam may represent social cohesion, but also destruction of wealth creation and the denial of political liberty. And is it too risky or premature to speculate that the United States, with the largest potential through its superiority in communication and the global thirst for American culture, will advance wealth creation to the detriment of both social cohesion and political liberty?

How does a society find the appropriate balance of wealth creation, social cohesion and political liberty? How do we use the tools of information technology to strengthen all three corners of our triangle so that the triangle as a whole is more robust?

ACCESSIBILITY

The information highway should be an affordable and relevant to Canadians as the telephone and television are today, with almost 99 percent penetration rates. While private enterprise and the marketplace will do a large part of the job, incentives or barriers to access will necessitate collaboration between the public and private sectors, or government intervention.

LEARNING

In the need to enhance learning as a lifelong process, and to see lifelong learning as a key element to building the information highway, we have taken a several key first steps in Canada. SchoolNet, a federal government initiative, will connect every one of Canada's 16,000 schools and 3,400 public libraries to the Internet by end 1998—distinguishing our country with the world's highest level of connectivity. A Canadian Access Program is providing public Internet access to 10,000 rural villages and concentrated urban areas in Canada. And a Smart Communities program will provide benchmarks on the best practices for community connectivity, using information technology to increase the local economic, social and cultural potential.

Of course, connection to the Net is just step. The next is to increase the student-to-computer ratio in classrooms so they can be used as regular tools. Again, a federal computer-recycling program has put 75,000 usable computers into schools, with a goal of 250,000 by 2000. But the crucial next step is to help teachers evolve from their role as content providers to coaches or facilitators—the crucial agents in teaching critical thinking, and to put content on the carriage way that stimulates critical thinking.

INNOVATION

Innovation is key to wealth creation. We need to establish an environment where innovators can thrive, where change is not feared. Demolition is the traditionally unpopular and repudiated telecommunications industry marks a beginning, as does the importation of ideas from the more dynamic computer hardware and software industries. Governments are being challenged to relevance themselves, to become model users of the information highway and content themselves to serve citizens more responsively and efficiently. They also need to understand how jobs are created and lost through innova-

tion. Studies show that industries with a more innovative use of information technology have been substantial job creators.

TRUST, PRIVACY AND SECURITY

With the greater interconnectedness of computers and communication comes new concern about privacy and trust in electronic commerce. Civil law jurisdictions have long viewed individual privacy as a fundamental right. That has not been traditionally true in common law jurisdictions. In the past decade, legislation regulating the relationship between the individual and the state—providing a privacy protection with respect to government data—has emerged. Only now are we beginning to see a movement for new legislation protecting the individual against the corporation—privacy protection in the power sphere. While voluntary codes and good business practice have established sensible guidelines and protective mechanisms, there are plenty of businesses that are not prepared to play by these voluntary rules—or who exploit their gaps. Trust is the base of law reform dealing with electronic commerce, and dismantling many barriers to it. Trust is built with new tools to deal with consumer fraud, reliable payment or supply collecting systems, authentic digital signatures, acceptable computerized records in government transactions or private dealings. All require careful attention to ensure that the form of law follows the function of modern electronic commerce, and the system upholds confidence.

CONTENT

The Canadian Information Highway Advisory Council was set up in April, 1996, to advise on a national strategy. It had three objectives: jobs, Canadian cultural content and accessibility. We considered several alternate titles before settling on our final report: *Connection, Content, Content*. First, was *The Net Spike*, with analogies to Pierre Berton's *The Last Spike*, signifying the importance of a transcontinental effort to connect Canadians. Another suggestion was, "It's the content, ah!"—with the Canadian expression "ah" standing for electronic highway. Both components are necessary to give life and soul to the information highway.

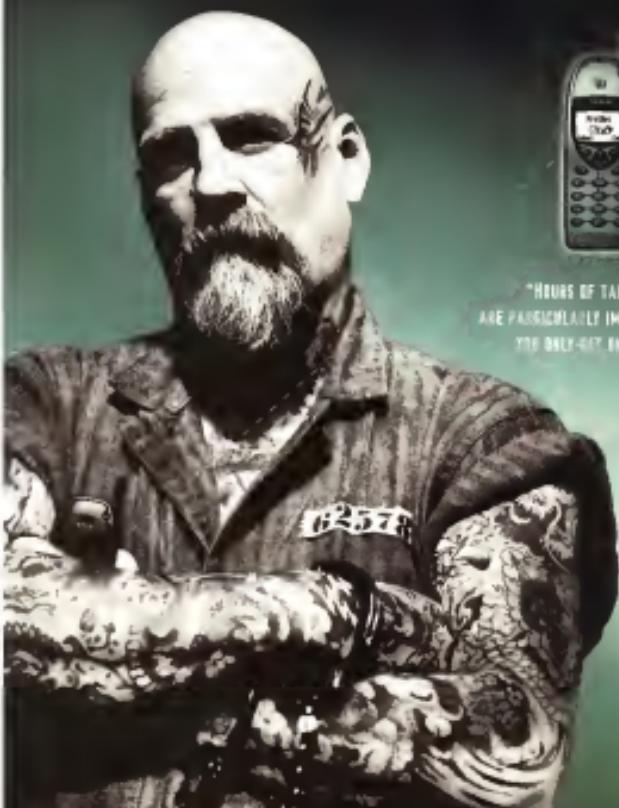
There are unique challenges for Canadians to ensure a place for their stories, news and music, and a recognition of the French and English components of Canadian culture. This is a challenge we have lived with throughout our history. The prioritization of the information highway gives it new urgency.

HEALTH

With the Canadian health information network, we recognize that how we use information about what makes people well, and how to provide better and faster information on illness and its cure helps all Canadians. We think back to Luther's social and cultural revolution of accessibility, one which dramatically transformed the separation of the church and the understanding of the word of God. Will healthNet's focus for a better understanding of the condition of healthy being transform the role of doctors, nurses and other health-care professionals and hospitals and clinics? And will ministers of health in Canada's public system realize that their most important responsibility is managing information and putting it into the hands of individuals?

Change, choices, challenge. Their application to the information revolution confronts us squarely with that observation of a statesman of our time: "Some people see things as they are, and wonder why. I dream of things that ought to be and, why not." In making that application we take heart from the words of a great student of the human condition in the face of change, anthropologist Margaret Mead, who said, "Never doubt the capacity of a small group of committed citizens to change the world. And it is the only thing that can." □

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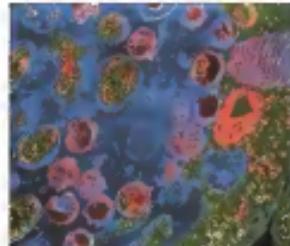


Dangerous liaisons

BY MARK NICHOLS

In the fall of 1980, Debra, a 34-year-old Vancouver nurse, began experiencing vaginal discharge, which she attributed to a yeast infection. Then, abdominal pain set in. After several weeks, Debra (not her real name) heard a painful confession from her husband: doctors had told him he had chlamydia caused by the chlamydia bacterium, which he probably picked up during unprotected sex with a woman he met in a bar. Physicians subsequently concluded that his wife, too, was infected with chlamydia and treated her with tetracycline, an antibiotic. A few months later, the symptoms came back and, after further rounds of treatment, came back again. For several years, repeated treatment failed to kill the bug and she lived with embarrassing pain. Finally, five years after the onset of the disease, doctors removed her uterus and fallopian tubes. Debra blamed her husband, not as much for his sexual flag, but for failing to disclose his own symptoms soon enough for her to get early treatment. They now are separated. "Women need to know what unprotected sex can do," she says. "It can result in chlamydia and take away your reproductive ability."

Chlamydia is Canada's most prevalent bacterial sexually transmitted disease, and experts estimate that 10 percent of sexually



Chlamydia bacteria, (false color), women face image risks from common sexually transmitted diseases

active young Canadian women are infected by the bug. Now, better methods of detecting chlamydia and faster simple treatments are enabling doctors to wage a tougher battle against a disease that can have devastating consequences. In 1986, about 35,000 chlamydia cases in men and women were reported in Canada, Bair says. Dr. Don Sutherland, director of the STD bureau at Ottawa's Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, "the true number may be five times higher"—because so many victims do not know they have the disease.

What is worse, chlamydia is not the only sexually transmitted agent that can act as a time bomb with devastating consequences—especially for women. Some sub-

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HEALTH

types of the human papilloma virus are now known to play a significant role in causing cervical cancer. What chlamydia and HPV have in common, says Dr. Barbara Bieringowski, an Edmonton specialist in sexually transmitted diseases, is that both are highly contagious and potentially dangerous diseases "in which victims may be unaware for years that they are infected."

In the case of chlamydia, an estimated 70 per cent of those infected may remain free of symptoms for years, while the disease can wreak havoc with their bodies. "A woman may have chlamydia for years and not find out about it until she decides to have a baby and finds she can't become pregnant," says Janet Robertson, a microbiologist at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. An estimated 45 per cent of chlamydia infections result in pelvic inflammatory disease, a syndrome that can include endometritis—chronic infection of the uterus—and infection of the fallopian tubes, the channels linking the ovaries and the uterus. As well, untreated chlamydia is blamed for about 70 per cent of all cases of tubal infertility—caused when scarring of the fallopian tubes prevents eggs from descending to the womb—and for about 30 per cent of all ectopic pregnancies, in which a fetus develops in the fallopian tubes and dies.

For men, the consequences are usually less severe. Chlamydia can cause urethritis—an infection of the urethra, the penis's interior canal—and epididymitis, a painful swelling of the testicles for sperm, which, if untreated, can lead to infertility. Up to 75 per cent of infected men may remain free of symptoms for years or decades, while passing the infection on to their partners. In the past, men have tended to avoid chlamydia testing—probably, doctors say, because of the possible social embarrassment involved. Now, a simple urine test can detect chlamydia in both men and women.

For all of the suffering it brings, chlamydia is easy to cure in both sexes—if it is caught soon enough. In 95 per cent of cases, a single dose of the antibiotic azithromycin will do the trick. But the drug cannot reverse any tissue damage that may have occurred. The best defense against chlamydia is condoms and diaphragms with spermicides.

Partly because of stepped-up screening by physicians and better treatment, reported cases of chlamydia have declined in the Canadian population. In 1996, the total was 115 for every 300,000 people from 16 to 19, 100,000 years earlier. But the number of chlamydia infections among young people

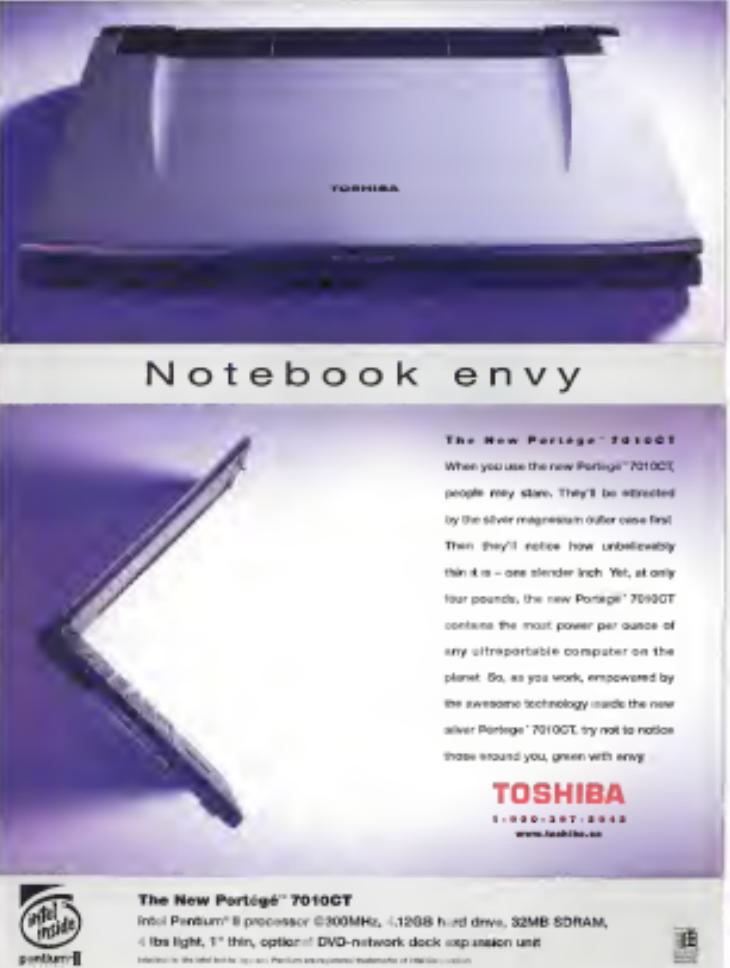
remains high—in 1996, the latest year for which Health Canada figures are available, more than one per cent of all Canadian women between the ages of 15 and 35 were infected, and experts estimate that the real infection rate is 10 times higher.

HPV is the most widespread sexually transmitted viral infection in Canada, with 10 to 40 per cent of the population infected. More precise statistics are not available because doctors are not required to report HPV cases to health authorities. Luckily, HPV usually results only in genital warts that often go away on their own, and occasional skin rashes. But concern about HPV has grown with evidence that several of the virus's subtypes are a major factor in cervical cancer. "Having HPV doesn't mean women are going to get cervical cancer," says Dr. Alka Cooray, a specialist in gynaecological cancer at Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital. "Only a small number of HPV infections may lead to about one per cent will result in cancer."

Finding ways of preventing these diseases is complicated by the fact that most people infected by HPV show no outward signs. And the telltale warts that can alert doctors to HPV infection appear in only about 20 per cent of infected women. Researchers continue to work to develop reliable ways of identifying carriers in the

age group of the virus. Using condoms and diaphragms with spermicides can help to prevent HPV infection. But according to Dr. David Partin, a Vancouver STD expert, the only truly effective defenses against HPV are "having a monogamous sexual partner who has regular Pap smear tests" to detect early signs of cervical cancer.

Dr. Weiss, head of the Vancouver-based Canadian STD Society, wants pressure exerted in another direction—towards better informed and greater public awareness of the catastrophic damage chlamydia can do to women. "This is a preventable, serious disease," she says, "and it's entirely preventable." If it's treated soon enough, that is. In 1996 the Canadian Medical Association advised physicians to routinely test sexually active young patients, and those who have recently changed sexual partners. For Ottawa's Sulterfield, making sure doctors and nurses "ask the right questions and test people who are at high risk" is a key to controlling an often silent and potentially remorseless disease. □



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Justice



Augustine at a logging protest in April; his mug shot (below). 'This is an absolute shock.'

An unlikely suspect

A native-rights leader faces a murder charge

On April 25, a defiant Noah Augustine stood before several hundred cheering natives on a provincial government woodlot north of Fredericton. The protesters had gathered to vent their outrage over a recent New Brunswick Court of Appeal ruling which stated that natives had an inherent right to log on Crown lands. "No court ruling will stop this movement," declared Augustine, a 27-year-old native businessman who had become one of the most vocal—and visible—spokesmen for natives in their increasingly bitter dispute with the New Brunswick government over who controls the province's forests. As native loggers dumped their chainsaws in the air for the benefit of the assembled media, Augustine intoned: "Indian rights are not for sale or negotiation."

Fast-forward to last week when a shockingly different public image emerged—that of a pale and drawn Augustine, dressed as a prisoner's orange jumpsuit, staring grimly into a Florida state sheriff's camera lens as a cut and bruise visible on his forehead. The mug shot was splashed all over New Brunswick newspapers and television newscasts following Augustine's arrest in Jacksonville, Fla., on a charge of murder. For most of Augustine's closest friends and associates, the two images were simply irreconcilable.

"Noah is a professional man, a gentleman," said Tom Peltier, a member of the Maliseet First Nation and a strong ally of Augustine during the logging protests. "This is an absolute shock."

Adding to the sense of disbelief were the circumstances under which Augustine was arrested along with Therasse Haddad, a 38-year-old community police officer from Augustine's home reserve of Red Bank, in southeastern New Brunswick. According to an RCMP document filed in U.S. District Court in Jacksonville, Augustine made a phone call on Sept. 25 from Jacksonville to Cpl. Ferns McLean at the RCMP detachment in Sunny Brook, N.B. Within minutes, the Florida Highway Patrol arrested Augustine and Haddad in connection with the murder six days earlier of Bertie Burnaby, 41, of the El Grand Reserve, 26 km from Red Bank.

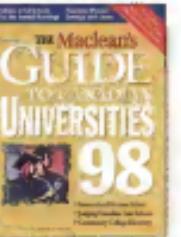
The arrests dominated the news in New Brunswick, particularly after several media outlets received copies of a document filed in Florida court by the RCMP. That statement of particulars, seeking the extradition of Augustine and Haddad, contained details of the RCMP's case against them. In a graphic illustration of the differences between U.S. and Canadian judicial coverage, the district attorney's office in Jacksonville readily released the document—against the wishes



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JUSTICE

of the RCMP—to reporters who asked for it.

But the Canadian system prevailed when the two men appeared in court in Miramichi, N.B., late last week to be formally charged with second-degree murder. When Augustine's lawyer, Gary Miller, complained that sensational media attention could "frustrate any accused's right to a fair trial," provincial court Judge Andrew Skymen denied his request for a ban on publishing information that could be used in evidence.

Now Augustine's new status as a murder suspect stands in sharp contrast to his previous commitment to good works. In response to a rash of suicides at New Brunswick's Big Cove reserve in the early 1990s, he trained as a counsellor and later held suicide prevention seminars for RCMP, corrections officials and native inmates. Starting in 2004, he also conducted an extensive study into prescription drug abuse by natives, a particularly acute problem at the Red Bank reserve.

In the spring of 1997, Augustine founded his own firm, Great Earth Consulting Associates, which catered to native clients. But his life took a dramatic turn last October when New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench Justice John Turnbull issued a stay of trial, declaring that 18th-century trespass laws denies first right to Crown lands. Thousands of native loggers took to the woods to assert those rights. And when band chiefs pressed reductions in grants to reporters about the logging dispute, the results—say Augustine—eagerly filled the void.

Given his soaring ally suits, Augustine seemed a natural choice to speak on behalf of the roofless-news media's. But it proved a fortuitous decision who helped forge the Native Leaders Business Association, which at one point represented more than 300 independent loggers. Then after the New Brunswick Court of Appeal overturned Turnbull's ruling in April, Augustine remanded at the last minute, trying again to elicit the government by continuing to log.

But Augustine's glory days were short lived. To his chagrin, many New Brunswick native chiefs bypassed his protest and signed agreements with the province granting their bands the right to a limited cut on Crown lands. In late June, New Brunswick Natural Resources Minister Doug Tyler pointedly refused to take a question from Augustine at a news conference, then moved to end the briefing. Later, when he was told that if he wanted to see Tyler he would have to make an appointment, Augustine stormed out of the building and drove away. In the intervening months, Augustine dropped out of sight—until last week's dramatic developments placed him once again squarely in the spotlight.

BRIAN BERGMAN with LISA GREGGOREK
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The other Leonardo

Victoria hosts a celebration of the Renaissance visionary

BY CHRIS WOOD

He was born illegitimately on Sept. 15, 1452, to a philandering Tuscan official and a peasant girl in the village of Vinci. And Leonardo, known by his birthplace in the hills outside Florence, Italy, was the proverbial Saturday's child, working hard to make a living during his 70 years. For a succession of wealthy French and Italian noblemen, he performed as a songwriter, singer, organized public festivals and advised as a military engineer—all the while overseeing a studio of apprentices who churned out a popular mix of portraits, anatomical drawings and paintings on religious themes. But it is not his prodigious output that has kept Leonardo da Vinci's name alive. As an exhibition unveiled last week at the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria strives to stemming effect, the peasant boy from Vinci can lay a legacy of art, observation and invention dazzling even to the aided eyes of the late 20th century.

Leonardo da Vinci: Scientist, Inventor, Artist, which runs until Feb. 28 in the only Canadian stop, is a bold attempt to capture in four large rooms the full range—and startling modernity—of the original Renaissance man. In addition to showcasing such enduring masterpieces as *The Last Supper* and *Mona Lisa*, da Vinci's fertile mind overflowed with inventions (including the first studies of tunnel flight) and an insatiable curiosity, which led him to break the laws of the day in order to study anatomy at its source, by dissecting human cadavers. Unlike previous curators of da Vinci shows, who have focused mainly on either the artistic or inventive side of the great man, "we wanted," says Richard Oerberg, the art historian who helped assemble this collection, "to show the whole genius of Leonardo." To that end, he and curator Otto Lederer of Germany's Institute for Cultural Exchange—which adapted the show from one first mounted in Sweden in 1995—assembled 30 original 15th- and 16th-century art works (including two oils by Raphael, as well as pieces by da Vinci himself), dozens of museum-quality reproductions of Leonardo's sketches, notebooks and anatomical drawings, and 80 large-scale, handbuilt models of devices that he invented—a total of 220 pieces.

No, the *Mona Lisa* is not part of the exhibition. But in its place is what must surely be the next-best thing: a copy so perfect it hangs in the Louvre for three years in the early part of the century while the original was first repaired for cleaning—and then stolen for a day before being recovered in 1913. The copy—known as the *Gothenborg Mona Lisa* after the Swedish town where it is normally housed—is to exact, says Oerberg, that even art experts cannot find a single difference at all. And it may actually be more satisfying than the original for visitors. Visitors to the Louvre must look at Leonardo's handwork



The Virgin of the Rocks: a legacy of art and invention that continues to fascinate from a distance and through bullet-proof glass, but Victoria visitors gets up close as they like to the uncensored copy.

Other works displayed nearby are believed by art historians to be da Vinci's own. A terracotta bust, decorated with the patina of age, shows an intricate portrait of the young Jesus caught in mid-breath, eyes closed and sensitive—almost feminine—lips parted. Across the room, a red-tasseled wicker cradle—a study for a larger sculpture—seems to capture a rider and his leading horse in mid-freeze-frame. Yet another side of the artist is revealed in what, for many, may be the most startling artifact on display: a small sketch on paper that da Vinci drew



(Clockwise from left) Design of a tank model of a tank; *Rest of Christ as a Youth*; design of a flying machine; starting moderately and increasing continually



in about 1514. *The Angel in the Flask* possesses a wanian grin, bare female breasts—and a large, erect penis.

The same gallery illustrates both Vinci's influence on other areas of his era—and his superior vision. *Flight Test to the Gothicberg Mona Lisa*, for instance, is a second portrait (this one a winged) closely modeled on Leonardo's work. Painted some years later by Giacomo Caprotti, da Vinci's longtime companion and adopted son, *Mona Lisa* has the Mona Lisa's smile and pose, but fewer clothes. Three different versions of a popular alchemical tableau of the day, *The Poge of the Ark*, share obvious elements: the Magdalene sitting upright with the infants Jesus and John the Baptist at her feet, an angel to side, pointing at the child who will become Christ. But inside the innocuous details and intensely personal focus of Leonardo's scenes, works by Bernardino da Coni and Bartolomeo Suardi show flat and dull, pedestrian representations of stock characters.

The show's appeal does not rest solely on its art, however. "My son," Leonardo once declared "is to construct machines which will enable whole world to be moved." Working from detailed sketches in Leonardo's notebooks, computer experts have produced machinelike iron frame and wood and metal of what two dozen of his most weird-looking inventions—including an early study of a helicopter and a one-man glider that, in the age of modern materials, might well fly. Among other devices envisioned by da Vinci and modeled in the col-



lection: a whirling automobile, a parachute and a rapid-fire gun—which would not appear on battlefields until the U.S. Civil War, 300 years after Leonardo's death in 1519.

The last in one of many ways reaches that da Vinci drew for patients and his audience: Augmented who was known to buy birds at the market simply to set them free, Leonardo considered war "a brutal madness." But his papal and princely patrons looked in more or less permanent conflict with their neighbors, who engaged frequently in inventive genius-in-means of destruction. "He had great pangs of conscience about his war machines after he invented them," notes Bill Barley, the B.C. museum's chief executive officer. "He invented a submarine and buried it in his notes, because he began to speculate what that would do in invade warfare."

Leonardo's notebooks hold a fascination all their own. They record the angles of his ingenuous mind—and the intricacy of life half a millennium ago. Carefully observed studies of moving water, faces, a horse's leg, share space with speculations on prophecy or depictions of a storm breaking across a valley, all inter-spaced with scrawled notes. Leonardo's words are indecipherable to most people. They are in Renaissance Italian and written in mirror script—whether because he was left-handed and did not want to smudge the ink, or as a defense to prying eyes.

The curators chose to show collectible-quality duplicates of Leonardo's notebooks and many sketches, rather than originals, because of cost considerations, says Barley. "When they began looking at it, they realized that if they filed the exhibition with originals they'll never be able to travel, because nobody could afford the insurance." As it is, the artifacts on display are insured for a hefty \$100 million.

The museum expects more than 200,000 people to visit Leonardo da Vinci: Scientist, Inventor, Artist. To capture as their interest, other Victoria have placed related events ranging from a menu of Renaissance-inspired dishes at the popular B' Terraço eatery, to a new play *Jugoslav Spectacles*. *Jugoslav* sees Leonardo, which opens on Nov. 10 for a six-week run at the B' Teatre. Together with the exhibition project, it will add up to not only an impressive survey of Leonardo's multifaceted talent, but also a welcome antidote to alienation and cynicism—a powerful glimpse of the heights of human striving. □



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The comedy generally sweeping the industry that made him a star

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In his new show,
Rick Mercer
once again
plays it nasty

Show-no-mercy Mercer

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

A resenting bit of trivia about Rick Mercer when he appeared last year as the children's television producer *Doddy the Dog*, he played the scheming, impulsive *Mr. Meers*, whose *Meers* affectionately describes as "the only character on *Doddy* never to see the error of his ways." The 35-year-old Newfoundland leader, who has become a national figure thanks to his wacky appearances as a casting reporter on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, readily acknowledges that he has a penchant for characters with a sassy, ruthless edge. In that regard, Mercer has hit another lode with his new CBC series, *Alpha in Canada*, which premieres this week (Monday, Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m.). Mercer plays Richard Strong, a struggling script reader who will stop at nothing—including dragging his boss—to further his career at Pyramid Productions, a fictional television and film company. "It's exciting to explore a character who has no conscience," Mercer told Maclean's between spoonfuls of scalped chicken at a Baffin's restaurant. He said it with a smile.

Merger's fondness for his latest role is only fitting—after all, he helped create it. Co-written by Mercer and Mark Farrell (who played one of the producers on *Rea-*

Fieldhouse's *The Neighbors* and is a staff in Canada series that's the very industry that made Mercer a star. Nearly everyone on the show, from the lowliest secretary to the most powerful corporate executive, is obnoxiously on the make. And Mercer says he doesn't have to look too far afield for inspiration: "The industry is interesting in that it is filled with overblown characters," says the actor-writer, who now lives in Halifax, where both *22 Minutes* and *Alpha in Canada* are shot. "It encourages eccentricity and outrageous egos."

That the shaggy-haired comedian has hit the box office with such gusto is hardly surprising. When it comes to humor, Mercer shows no mercy. His targets include self-absorbed baby boomers, superficial young ladies and pompous politicians on both the left and the right. So far, most of Mercer's spleen-wrenching has occurred in his two-minute trundles in each installment of *22 Minutes*, which begins its sixth season this week. *Stonk* black and white, as Mercer paces the gritty Halifax waterfront, gesturing towards the television cameras, his manta capture the common man's rage over everything from the venality of banks (if they could figure out a way to charge you for the pen that's chucked in the corner, they'd do it) to the

finality of New Year's resolutions ("I will not stop drinking altogether, but I will explore light beer as a healthier beverage, at least for now"). A collection of these pronouncements, published earlier this year in a slim volume called *Stonk*, shot to near the top of bestseller lists—even though the book cost \$14.95 and could be read in less than an hour.

Despite his relative youth, Mercer has, in fact, been racking professionally for years. The third of four children raised in a middle-class home in Middle Coon, near St. John's, Nfld., Mercer admits to a certain homesickness during his school years. He would sun public speaking contests or run for student council, not out of any sibling competition, but "for the appeal of standing up in front of what the school with a microphone and saying whatever you wanted." While still in high school, he co-founded a comedy troupe, *Carry and Wade's Playhouse*, and began playing gigs at the Labradorian's Protective Union Hall, an amateur theatre space in St. John's. It was there that he first worked alongside future *22 Minutes* cohorts Mary Walsh and Cathy Jones, both veterans of the legendary Codco comedy group.

It was also during these early days that Mercer came to the notice of Gerald Lata, then an Ottawa-based producer. Lata, now



Mercuri (bottom right) and his 22 Minutes colleagues as the Gutter Gantics: wild rants and spleen-venting

creative producer of *22 Minutes* and executive producer of *Made in Canada*, helped Mercuri launch his first self-penned one-man play, *Show Me the Bottom*. (IV. Push It Off, Charles Lyrich, West Des.) The work was inspired, in part, by a column the veteran Ottawa journalist had written blasting Newfoundland premier Clyde Wells's stand-offish opposition to the Meaford Lake accord. Lynch commented that it came to a crescendo between Quebec and Canada's youngest province, it was an comfort—the Newfoundland "whiners" would have to go.

Mercuri, then just 20, responded with his own open letter to Wells, railing against the central Canadian elite in their domineering attitude towards his home province. The play premiered in 1990 at Ottawa's National Arts Centre, with Lynch sitting in the front row. The审核's critique? "Dove says a Newfoundlander is telling the rest of Canada go f--- itself." "I just told Madhouse the three. But he added that, even though Mercuri has "made me the Susan Bataille of Newfoundland, he's brilliant."

Mercuri's next play, *The Killed Before It Kill Again*, was, if anything, an even darker comedy. Based on the premise of mutated Canadians flocking to Newfoundland after a massive nuclear accident, Mercuri cast himself as the province's buxom, working at \$4.25 an hour. And because capital punishment has been decreed by such courts as hot-tot and the composition of being kids again, a land of cellular phones—Pali-

law Newfoundlanders Crobie is "honey bad, I think, honest, which is essentially what gets him in crog all the time." As for Cheshire, he's a professional politician and certain Bay Street lawyer who succeeds by "looking like the guy who shows up to lay crooked stone on your driveway."

A longtime political practitioner, Mercuri admits it is what he calls a "political inaccuracy"—joining the NSP as a teenager. "I wanted to work in a political campaign," he says, "and went with them because, essentially, they're take any one." His career/lobbying lapsed years ago and, since then, The never joined a political party or given any of them money.

That is about as self-revealing as Mercuri gets. He will not discuss his personal life. He cannot acknowledge that his offstage existence is fairly sedentary. A anonymous reader ("Every plough from decent literature is trashy"), he also enjoys watching television. Mercuri is especially fond of such inane soapy Washington political shows as *The McLaughlin Group*, where, as he puts it, "you have four rabid dogs on there yelling" about the news of the week—an apt enough description, come to think of it, of *22 Minutes*.

So, what gives? Does Mercuri have to get mad before he gets funny? "I just feel that when people get angry, they often say the funniest things," he says with a shrug. "So that's where a lot of good comedy comes from. Sometimes, you just have to work yourself up into a bit of a froth."

But these are who have observed Mercuri over the years say his comedy springs from a genuine sense of outrage. "He's just as likely to sit at the dinner table as he is on stage," says St. John's actor and comedian Andy Jones, a founding member of Cadence. But the outrage is learned, adds Jones, by "a deep sense of fact, which makes it pitiable."

Mercuri's playful side is most evident when he deals with pretension. Among the most notable Mercuri on screen is 22 Minutes' Harry the French chef with French Minister Jean Chretien, sat haggard in a chair listening to John Crobie read from his memoirs, or left Debrah Grey snarled from a chip-shop while he was supposedly filling in a loss of memory. In his perhaps no accident that these are all pretentious Mercuri professes to abhor. He blames Grey for her "staggering tactlessness, even if quite often her tongue is disconnected from her brain." Pal-

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Lolita (left), Scream: a twisted drama about doomed romance and self-destructive passion

Dirty old tragic man

LOLITA

Directed by Adrian Lyne

I arranges with a great deal of baggage—a movie that is guilty until proven innocent. *Guilty until Proven Innocent* has delayed Lolita's North American release for more than a year. But it has played in Europe. And now that it has opened across the country, Canadians have a chance to see what all the fuss is about. The prospect of watching Adrian Lyne's iconic vision of an older man lusting after a 12-year-old "overripe" girl seems justifiable. How could Lyne, the master of such gaudy melodramas as *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Judgment at Nuremberg* and *9 1/2 Weeks*, outdirect Stanley Kubrick, who made the original *Lolita* in 1962? And he could outdirect Stephen Schiff, a journalist who wrote upon the brilliance of that film, which costars Vivien Leigh, alienated his own masterpiece?

Well, it is hard to tell, and even harder to admit, but the new *Lolita* is a pretty good movie. Although it is disturbing, and although Lyne crosses the screen with not much sexual gaudiness, it is compelling. There are no graphics or scenes. In fact, Lyne gives us the way to be sexual, almost to a fault. And in some respects, his Lolita is more faithful to the 1955 novel than Nabokov's version, which was crippled by the censoring strictures of the day.

The original film, shot in evocative black and white, still holds up beautifully. But it plays as dark comedy, or bilious tragedy

circumstances from a clinical distance. Kubrick focused on the passion than on its implications. The relationship between Humbert Humbert, the bearded professor, and Lolita, his stepdaughter, was staged as a sexual clash, a showdown between European cruelty and American innocence. And in the void between James Mason's archetypal cynicism and Sue Lyon's earnest innocence, Kubrick inserted a breath-taking irony. He also infused the vaporous, gauzy roles into "real-life" distinctions—with a vampiric Shirley Wibo as Lolita's manipulative mother and a jaded old boy Peter Sellers as Clive Quilty, the characteristic blue interloper who comes between Humbert and his nymph.

The new *Lolita* has its own come-to-touches. But it plays as a doored romance, a drama of self-destructive passion, which makes it more unconvincing—and more like the new. As Humbert, Jeremy Irons is a superb. The tale fits him like an old silk dressing gown. After playing a string of unconvincing men on the darker side of sexual obsession—in films ranging from *Death Pages* to *Desperately Seeking Steven*—Humbert's hellish paradise, if he were fate-told. By now, the actor knows it well, the spiral of lust, guilt, passion, debauch and ruin.

As Lolita, newcomer Dominique Swain captures the essence of Nabokov's repressive nymph. She was just 15 during the

shoot, and with a glance or a gesture she shifts between innocent child and knowing seductress. Udo Kier, who played Lolita as a controlling icon, Swain comes across as a girl looking with stuff she doesn't understand. Melanie Griffith, meanwhile, is almost cruelly cast in the role of Lolita's mother and Humbert's bad lady. With her baby-doll voice lurching into a seductive shriek, she outdoes Winters in portraying a middle-aged widow laying in char that she no longer possesses.

Lyne retains the story's late-40s setting. And he is more of a road movie than Kubrick's, an odyssey through an early modernist world of models with "magic fingers" vibrating beds. For all the nostalgia, however, the dialogue—and Lolita's manner—have a contemporary gloss that often seems anachronistic. Also, in trying not to exploit his subject directly, Lyne relies on genetics to suggest her childhood sexuality—most of the time. His favorite device is having her take out her dental retainer. Then there is Lolita sucking a straw with a milk mustache. Lolita sitting by the open garden door at night, eating ice cream with raspberries stuck to her finger tips. Lolita in the car, possibly sucking on a pacifier. Not to mention the lingering close-ups of a cherry suddenly laid into a soda. This is the Adrian Lyne of 9 1/2 Weeks, a director with a theme for life.

Spiced by a somber score by Ennio Morricone, the whole movie is bathed in a sugared light. But Lyne finally breaks into the window in the film's bloodiest drama. Humbert's assault on Lolita, his nightmarish after egg, is a horrific baptism of spurting blood. Suddenly, the filth of *Fatal Attraction* has sprung up in Lyne, after hold him lapped back for the entire movie, finally lets go, doing with violence everything that he could not do with sex. It is not subtle—a large bubble of blood escaping Lolita's mouth crudely echoes Lolita blowing bubbles.

Still, Lyne succeeds in conveying the real complexity of Nabokov's novel. Lolita is not just about a sedly twisted man lusting after a child. It is about the thrill and the horror of any romance that now goes under the generic term of "inappropriate." Lolita is the quintessential tale of erotic delusion. It is impossible to say who is seducing whom. And in Morton Lewinsky's America, the story of an older man making the world for a fling with no future is especially harrowing. □

Automotive Marketplace ONTARIO

Open versus Closed Leases

Dennis DesRosiers



In previous articles that consumers should be very cautious when deciding whether to sign an open-end or a closed-end lease for their new vehicles. This is a complex but important topic, worth an article explaining in more detail.

What is the difference between an open-end and a closed-end lease? To explain this I would like to review the structure of a lease. There are five primary elements:

- 1 How much the vehicle costs — what the leasing industry calls the "capital cost."
- 2 The interest rate charged in the lease — what the leasing industry calls the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) or "Factor."
- 3 What the vehicle is forecast to be worth at the end of the lease — what the leasing industry calls the "residual value."
- 4 Additional charges for items like extended warranties, rust proofing, etc. Deductions for trade-ins or down payments.

A lease is essentially a loan that does not amortize to zero. The consumer only pays down the principle to the residual value. Let's work through an example of a typical lease. In this example the consumer has a three-year lease

The consumer pays \$500 per month off the principle of the lease (36 months x \$500/month equals \$18,000) plus interest of six per cent on the declining balance and at the end of the lease there is still \$18,000 owing on the vehicle. This lease has a lower monthly payment than a loan because with a loan the consumer would have to pay \$1,000 per month of the principle so that after 36 months the vehicle would be paid for completely. Thus leases have a lower monthly payment than loans. But I would remind consumers interest charges are always higher on a lease than a loan with the same APR. On the last payment of a lease in our example the consumer pays interest of about \$90 on \$18,000. On the last payment of our loan the consumer pays interest of only about \$3 on \$1,000 therefore interest on a lease will always be higher than on a loan.

At the end of the lease somebody has to come up with the \$18,000 still owing on the vehicle. Ultimately the individual who pays that \$18,000 is the second owner of the vehicle or whoever buys the vehicle in the used car market. But what if the used car buyer will not pay \$18,000 and instead will only pay \$16,000? Then someone still owes \$2,000 for the vehicle. But who? With a closed-end lease it is the leasing company or the lessor who pays the original lender of the money the extra \$2,000 dollars owing. With an open-end lease it is the consumer or the lessee who pays the extra \$2,000.

So with a closed-end lease the lessor assumes what is known as the "residual value risk" whereas with an open-end lease the consumer assumes the residual value risk. What is the problem with that? The difficulty is that nobody can guarantee the value of a used vehicle two, three, four or five years into the future. Anybody who says that is mis-

- the vehicle costs \$34,000;
- the interest rate is six per cent;
- and the residual value is 50 per cent or \$18,000.

leading the consumer. The predicting of residual values is an art, not a science. The auto sector is only in the early stages of understanding what causes used vehicle prices to increase or decrease. The industry generally does a good job predicting residual values but there are many cases where estimates are off by thousands of dollars.

In addition, even at lease and there are serious issues related to determining what the vehicle is actually worth. The leasing company will usually send the vehicle to an auction or sell it to a wholesaler. When the consumer is on the hook for the residual value, there is no incentive for the lessor to maximize the used vehicle price. All kinds of problems can and do arise.

But consumers can significantly lower their monthly payment if the residual value is set very high. So there is tremendous pressure in the leasing industry to use

will be. In September 1993, legislation will come into effect to cap any residual value liability for consumers. Losses will be limited to the actual loss on the site of the vehicle, three monthly loan payments or 20 per cent of the residual value whichever is lower. This will significantly protect consumers but they can still end up owing a lot of money.

I do not believe most consumers should take that risk. It may cost a little more per month with a closed end lease but consumers know exactly what the total payments will be over the life of the lease and there are no surprises at the end.

Let me give an example of how volatile used vehicle prices can be in today's market. Only three or four years ago minivans were the hottest vehicles in the used car market. Sales were increasing year in and year out. This hot vehicle syndrome also spread

1998 CLEAR-OUT EVENT

Chrysler Clears the Way for Extreme Summer Savings.

Things have gotten a little out of hand around Chrysler showrooms lately. Their 1998 Clear-Out Event has resulted in thousands of car savvy Canadians flocking to check out the used inventory vehicles. Not only are these cars and trucks needed to move but most

Things have gotten a little out of hand around Chrysler showrooms lately. Their 1998 Clear-Out Event has resulted in thousands of car savvy Canadians flocking to check out the award winning vehicles. Not only are these cars and trucks priced to move but most also come with a zero percent purchase financing rate. Something that was unheard of in past years. There are big savings and zero percent purchase financing on Neon, Breeze, Stratus, the all-new Cirrus and even Canada's best selling minivan. Plus super deals on Dodge trucks, Jeeps and many more.

Why is the car market suddenly heating up? After years of belt tightening, consumers are tired of dutifully accepting the status quo and are ready to treat themselves. The key to Chrysler's success this summer is having the right vehicles at the right price at the right time.

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Electro-catalysis and Nanotube growth This is an area of interest which includes the study of how to control the growth of nanotubes and how to use them in catalytic processes. The group has developed a number of methods for the synthesis of nanotubes and has used these to study the catalytic properties of nanotubes.



over to the used market. Two, three and four-year-old minivans were in constant demand and as a consequence, their prices also were going up. Indeed a three-year-old minivan could fetch upwards of 75 per cent of its original selling price (MSRP).

A \$35,000 minivan would sell for \$25,000 to \$28,000. With this high a residual value the monthly payments on leases were very low so even more consumers leased minivans. Today, only three or four years later, minivans are no longer the hot vehicle in the market.

the market although they are still popular. Sport utility vehicles are now hot. This is also true in the used vehicle market where sport utility command premium prices.

- Lessees with a very low residual value and therefore very low rate
- Lessees with a high upfront deposit—*as long as this is reflected in a lower residual value*
- Consumers who are going to drive their leased vehicle a lot lower 40,000

Information per word

There are no hard and fast rules and to be honest, the number of open-end mutual funds in the market over the last few years has been very low (under 15 per cent) because most consumers are smart enough to understand the risk. Over the last few years residual values have generally gone up so there has been little risk for both open-end and closed-end funds.

But two years ago residual values peaked and began to decline. This is likely to continue and to accelerate over the next three years. Used vehicle prices today are very volatile and some leasing companies now prefer to sell open-end leases, thus forcing the consumer to take the risk involved in dealing with this volatility.

It is a very dangerous time for consumers to be signing open-end leases and except for the very sophisticated I would recommend signing only closed end leases. ■

IN THE CITY AND THE FORESTER

The new millennium is bringing a host of exciting, new automobiles and Subaru has taken the industry by storm with its new generation Sport Utility Vehicle - the Forester.

Many of our nation's finest journalists have tested the Forester to the bone in its class ahead of the Honda CR-V and Toyota RAV-4 (TSN's Motorist '98 - Best New Compact Sport Utility Vehicle, plus critics in Canada, CAA's Locomotive, World of Wheels and Consumers Digest) suggest to some a few? Fortunately, many consumers feel the same way. So, perhaps it is no surprise that sales of the Forester have been well ahead of Subaru Canada Inc.'s expectations.



The new 1999 Forester is a dynamic hybrid of car and sport utility. It possesses a 2.5L 4 cylinder (horizontally opposed) SOHC 16-valve Boxer engine with 165 hp connected to the 4WD by CVT and 113 lb-ft torque. The energetic

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Volvo says All-Wheel Drive can save your soul.

Subaru says, welcome to heaven.

In short, we're broadening MR Wheel Drive sales. For years, the volume wheel drive is a premium model. MR Wheel Drive "perhaps the most impressive sales of any year," a statistic that can "over your head" now work as a legitimate method. After all, Indians bought the very first passenger car with an all-wheel driving system in North America back in 1915. And in the end, we're the only company that builds MR Wheel Drive into every model. (Mazda currently offers only the lightest part-time 4WD. Wheels Drive on all other cars, too. Undoubtedly, we'll play larger to wider audiences in the field. With 750,000 sales as an all 1,000,000 MR-4WDs for more information,



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Electronic Branding of Damaged Vehicles Protects Consumers

Until

recently Ontario was a dumping ground for wrecked and stolen vehicles left to atrophy among consumers. That was because the province had no automobile branding policy – an electronic means of identifying vehicles that had been severely damaged and written off by insurance companies.

"While the government corrected the situation this July, it will still take a couple of years for this new branding process to work its way through the system," says Bob Pierce, Chief Executive Officer of the Toronto Automobile Dealers Association.



Robert K. (Bob) Pierce,
CEO GADADA/TOA

Under the new Ontario policy all severely damaged vehicles written off by insurance companies must be reported to the province. The automobiles, through their vehicle identification numbers (VIN), are then electronically registered as either "imperable" or "salvage." This brand registration will also appear on the vehicle registration when a used car is sold.

This means those vehicles can never be passed. Automobiles that have been branded as "imperable," for example, can only be scrapped for their parts. Vehicles branded as "salvage" can eventually be sold, but only under a "rebuilt" designation that meets existing technical safety standards and regulations. Under the new system stolen vehicles will also be red flagged.

"In addition, there will be no incentive for the criminal element to purchase wrecks in order to obtain the VIN to put it in to a similar-styled stolen vehicle. The practice of swapping VINs from wrecked vehicles to stolen automobiles was only feasible because the purchasers thought they were getting undamaged goods. The new regulation will go a long way to discouraging that illegal practice."

Pierce says for many years, his association has been urging various Ontario governments to introduce this measure – similar to branding legislation in some other Canadian and US jurisdictions. "We are extremely pleased that it is finally in place. Not only does it provide better protection to consumers, it also protects dealers."

"This had been a big problem for our industry. Since there was no way of checking if the used car being purchased had been wrecked or stolen, the dealer who may have purchased a salvaged vehicle and resold it, was financially responsible to his customer."

Pierce says that even with the new legislation in place, consumers who are purchasing used cars must still be wary as it will take time for the process to work its way through the system.

He suggests they check out all relevant documents and the used vehicle information package.

"It is essential consumers take a hard look at the car and check that everything fits perfectly. If something is even slightly off, it is an indication the car has previously been involved in an accident."

Another item to check for is whether or not the vehicle has been recently rust-proofed. The black colored compound used for rust-proofing can hide a lot of sins, he says. It is also important to check the condition of the paint, the trim, chrome and interior.

"Finally, it is important to remember that the criminal element is extremely crafty. Despite the fact that branding occurs in most North American jurisdictions, criminals will still find a way around the system."



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OPEN DOOR POLICY: THE MERCEDES-BENZ C-CLASS

The new C-Class series from Mercedes-Benz offers a distinct driving experience from the ground up. Of course the Mercedes reputation precedes itself on this front, but a big part of this story is price range. Starting at \$37,995, the doors – the driver's side doors – are now open in a wider range of consumers.

There are three models in the line, starting with the C230 Kompressor Ghia and Elegance. Their 185-hp engines uses an intercooled supercharger to deliver impressive performance. The C280 Sedan is powered by a 194-hp V-6.

To complement the eye to detail that any Mercedes product reflects, the C-Class series offers a range of options. The dressed up Elegance C280 comes with alloy wheels, light walnut trim and other extras. A Sport package, which includes performance tires, sport-tuned suspension, monochromatic body trim, and a plethora of eye-catching details, is available with the C280 Sedan.

In the interests of safety and performance, Mercedes has given the line standard Acceleration Slip Control, which fine-tunes traction, Brake Assist, which boosts braking power in emergency conditions, standard ABS braking, and standard four airbags.

The Mercedes experience invites a low offer with automotive detail. The C-Class line makes that invitation a lot harder to refuse.



Stranger than fiction

A writer turns autobiographical grist to gold

Does life imitate art, or the other way around? In her engrossing new novel, *A Recipe for Betrayal* (Crown, \$32.95), Gail Anderson-Darling writes about the embittering marriage of Karl and Augusta Olson. After a lifetime of hand-to-mouth farming near St. Jacobs, B.C., the couple has relocated to Vancouver Island where they are celebrating their 40th anniversary. A series of flashbacks traces their marriage from its early troubled days to the reflective tranquility of their later years. And despite the tainting of local gossip, Karl always trusts his, the product of Augusta's addictions—albeit his own beloved daughter. The role models for Anderson-Darling's characters? Her parents. The fifth of the daughters, the author knew as a child she was different from her elder sisters. Once she reached her late teens, she finally confronted her mother, Irene, and the older woman confirmed that Eric Anderson was not her biological father. But even though everyone else in her home town of Salmo, B.C., seemed to know, the sharp-tongued woman who raised her never let on. "She never made me feel anything other than 'I'm daughter,'" says Anderson-Darling.

The story doesn't end there. Nor does it end with her parents' 1960 divorce. Last year, the author showed each of them her manuscript for *A Recipe for Betrayal*. That prompted the former spouses to start talking again, and just before Christmas, they, in effect, eloped. "They got married on the sky, because they knew that if my sisters and I heard about it before hand, we'd want to throw them a big wedding," says Anderson-Darling. "Instead, they went as flies after the fact."

Anderson-Darling—she and her husband, Floyd, combined their surnames when they married in 1990—lives down a family lane below. In her 1996 debut, *The Cure for Death by Lightning*, many of the plot-motivations were actually her mother's, while the sense of being followed is drawn from other relatives being chased by bears. With



Anderson-Darling: You can have raised other men's children

heard some of the most compelling reminiscences because the men were more willing to open up to another man—sons for the first time in their lives. She and Floyd were told many tales of loss, illness, betrayal and immigration. Despite the emotional admissions, but still not ready to check out, Anderson-Darling asserts that often in traditional family communities it was the women who took losses. "There are lots of men who have raised other men's children," she adds.

There, however, was a twist of her second novel that Anderson-Darling acknowledged: in *A Recipe for Betrayal*, Jay's husband, Gabe, the bookkeeper, suffers from a brain tumor and undergoes major surgery. Anderson-Darling drew on Floyd's own experience with that disease and subsequent surgery and stroke, which he suffered while she was writing her first novel. The successful *The Cure* enabled the couple to buy a small property south of Errington, and Floyd, who is nearly fully recovered, is take up beekeeping. (Early in their marriage, Floyd had been a rancher and Anderson-Darling had worked at weekly newspapers.)

The author herself does not work with bees, but Floyd and others were generous in sharing their knowledge. In the novel, Augusta learns the ancient art of beekeeping from her mother, Helen, and then passes it on to Gabe. And the bees themselves seem to take on different moods and personalities. "Beekeeping really has all five senses," says Anderson-Darling. "You smell the honey, the hive is buzzing, it's all alive and electric. It's a wonderful sound. You'd think it would be quite frightening, but it's quite calming. It's a very sound sound."

Anderson-Darling will not divulge any details about the new novel she is working on. But it is difficult to imagine an author whose first two novels brim with love of the land and nature—said fascination with the supernatural—writing too wildly of course. She can't say that love honestly, she says, growing up in the lush B.C. interior. "It's a very convoluted landscape, you can't see what your neighbours are doing, you really don't know what's going on around the next corner. That landscape leads to all kinds of beliefs in the supernatural." And her mother encouraged wild imaginations. "You hear parents telling their kids not to dream, 'My dream did the opposite,' she said. 'Go dream.' It turned out to be excellent advice for a future novelist.

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Allan Fotheringham

Why Canadian women don't trust men

There are many puzzling aspects of the human comedy. Many conditions that are both confusing and amazing, without which, one supposes, it would be a very dull world. So far and all, some things don't make sense.

In Sweden, for example, four out of every 10 members of its parliament are of the female persuasion. This would seem close to logical, of course, since those of that sex make up slightly more than 50 per cent of the world population.

But as we all know, it's an unusual state of affairs. The Scandinavian countries are notorious for being advanced in this matter—Denmark, Norway and Finland all have at least 30 per cent female legislators in their parliaments.

It's the rest of the world that is remarkable in this matter. It is the practice, in serious policies around the globe, to refer to "developing" countries as opposed to those of which are supposed to be "developed" and therefore well-formed, completely absorbed and the creators of civilization.

Why is it, then, that South Africa has a higher percentage of females in its parliamentary system than does Canada, with all our high-ranking standard of living, educational standards and so on? Old Africa is ahead of us, and China barely behind the Canadian figure of just over 20 per cent females in Ottawa.

So what is "developed" as opposed to "developing," not to mention "undeveloped"? It completely baffles a student of the human condition, especially when we consider what happened the other day in downtown Ottawa, the city was just outside Toronto.

There is, in fact, were 27 terribly respectable (and very endorsed) women of the community charged in the operation of illegal schemes. Charged was the 58-year-old sole of former Durban region chairman, Aga major and police services board boss Jim Wrigg. Not to mention her two daughters, aged 33 and 39.

In the dock were members of the local Family Action Council, including a former Gleenglen school board trustee. These incipient criminals were the likes of ten ages—late 30s, the 40s-branch, some in their 50s—all well-enlisted in Banks without a trace.

The alleged ladies were participating in pyramid schemes, those

so-brazen money plots where everyone somehow is going to get rich and no one can get hurt. In this case, Sgt. Jim Gossney nicely explained, the scammers used names such as Women Helping Women, Cookies Club and Business Women's Investment Club.

Let this be thought an isolated case, it must be revealed that the daring sweep up well-endowed women has been just one of many recent incidents, with squads of detectives fanned out across rural Ontario, swooping up bands of blue-eyed cutlasses gathered over the cleverly disguised bridge tables.

Drugs dealers were snatched off their rooms of free and frank visits were snatched from protection while the law roamed in on these threats to society.

What we have here, you see, is a larvae plot against the male race. The Cookies Club, as with all the others, had one reputation: no men. The rationale, it was explained to eager new-comers, was that the existence of the all-female scheme could not be shared with hobby or boyfriend. No reason, no use.

At the base of the theory was the heartfelt belief that the girls—if left isolated from steering males—could be just as smart if not smarter than their arrogant names. The prima girl, talking detective explained, is started by a "queen." Two "ladies-in-waiting" under her each enlist two more women who lead a recruiting

The queen invents nothing, but stands to collect \$40,000. When she does, ladies-in-waiting become queens, two more pyramids form and the last queen forms another.

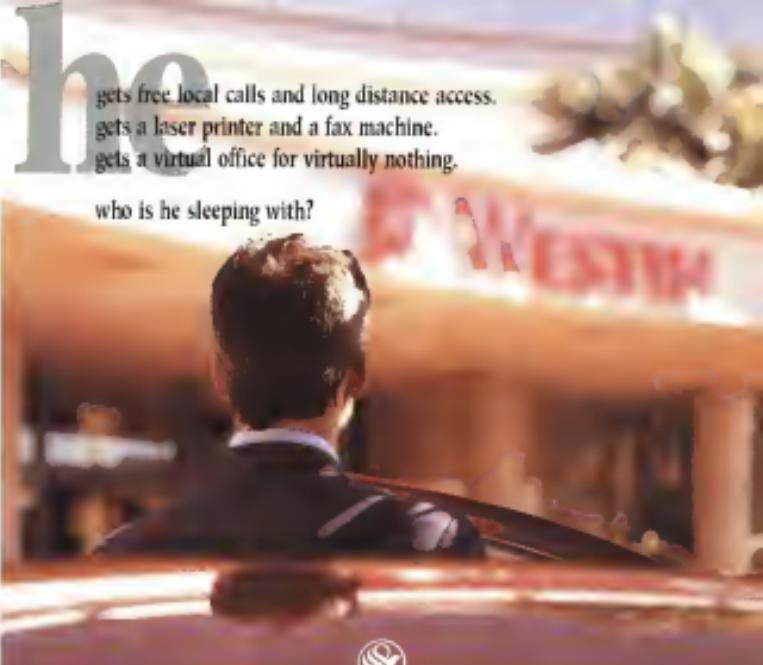
This is all gaudy nonsense, of course, but what is intriguing is that the Canadian female distrust (or fear?) of men feels the obviously illegal greed of it all. Businesses, as we know, come home Friday night from a grueling five days at the office and then play four hours of golf on Saturday so as to get away from their wives. The Cookies Club girls were getting their own revenge—high finance to murder it had to be kept from the males.

So what is an "advanced" country? In the above-mentioned parliamentary ranking of countries, Cuba and Costa Rica are ahead of Israel and Sherry/Equality France, China and Mexico top Japan. The mighty United States is below Poland, Portugal, Hungary and Indonesia.

It's the wife of the former mayor and the lady from the school board I worry about. The thought that the backbone of every community—the women who do the "good works"—get that they had discovered a reprehensible female scheme hidden from those rotten men makes one want to sit down and puke the stars.

The entire bank economy of Alberta, after communists left, collapsed when almost the complete population left for the old pyramid game. Police tell us it pays up rapidly.

Women don't trust men. Especially with money. What a surprise. This is Canada, the advanced country of 2008.



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gets a virtual office for virtually nothing.

who is he sleeping with?



THE WESTINS
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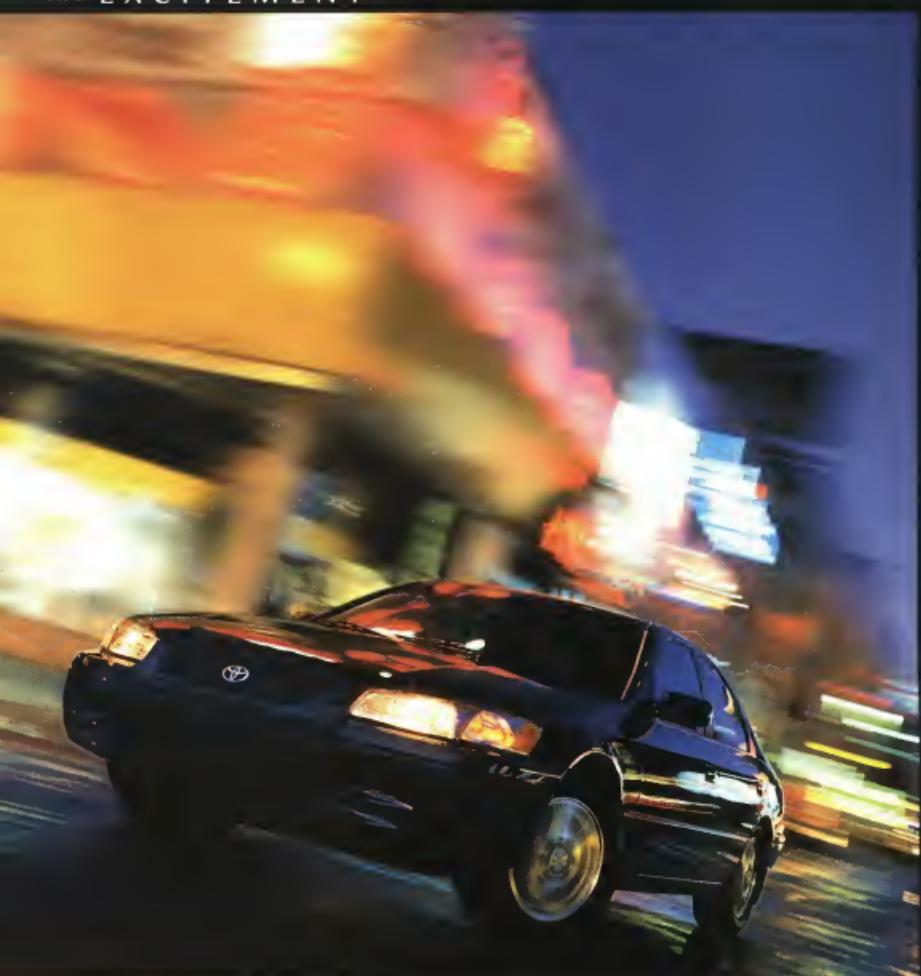
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